

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Kingmaking
How an astronaut's wife beat a stammer to help her husband's bid for the White House

Stocktaking
The changing Stock Exchange. Part 3 of the Business News survey

Mould-breaking
Priority for the new Seychelles Government - changing course for economic success

Car making
Clifford Webb looks at the new Volkswagen Golf and its £500m home

Pill-taking
Treating the fit instead of the sick. Alternative Medicine Part 3

Record breaking
David Miller and Pat Butcher report on the World Athletics Championships

Breath-taking
Joanna Lumley surveys the scene in Knossos and Siena

Peacemaking
Under the oceans of the world East and West are sparring for supremacy

Poll gloom for the President

If President Reagan had to fight Senator John Glenn for the presidency today, he would lose, according to a poll published by *The Washington Post*. If he was fighting former Vice-President Walter Mondale, the result would be too close to call. Mr Reagan has yet to announce whether he will be a candidate for re-election.

Inflation hope

Costs of fuel and basic materials bought by manufacturing industry fell last month, boosting government hopes of keeping inflation below 6 per cent for the remainder of the year.

Nigeria count

As the first results of the Nigerian presidential election became known, a close race appeared to be developing between President Shagari and his main rival, Chief Awolowo.

Drone hit

Syrian anti-aircraft missile crews opened fire on a "drone", a pilotless Israeli aircraft, above Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and claimed later they had destroyed it.

Nalco dispute

Homes for the elderly, children and disabled face industrial action by residential social workers belonging to Nalco who want parity with other local government workers.

Trouser suit

A woman who was dismissed from a crematorium after wearing a trouser suit to work had her claim for unfair dismissal rejected by an industrial tribunal.

Police censured

Significant criticism of the Metropolitan Police will be made in a new study, which suggests there are weaknesses in organization.

Car traced

Police have started examining a car sold by Dr Robert Jones, the Essex village doctor whose wife disappeared last month.

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Letters: On rates, from Professor S A Walkland, and others; farming from Mr C P Righton, and Mrs S Ranson
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Rios Montt holds out against Guatemala coup

Guatemala City (Reuters) - The Guatemalan armed forces said yesterday they had ousted President Rios Montt, but a senior official said the President was holding out at his palace surrounded by loyal troops.

The official, a presidential spokesman, said General Rios Montt was refusing to hand over power to General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the Defence Minister, who was named President in a military proclamation issued yesterday.

Negotiations were under way as helicopters flew over the presidential palace, the spokesman said.

Shooting was heard from the palace shortly after the proclamation but there were no immediate reports of casualties.

Earlier, phone lines had been cut in the city as soldiers with machine-guns took up positions at the presidential palace and radio station and air force jets swooped overhead.

The proclamation said the military had taken action after "analysing the situation created by a small group who, through personal ambition, attempted to perpetuate their rule."

General Rios Montt, aged 57, a fundamentalist Protestant, became President in June last year after heading a group of young officers who deposed the right-wing President Romeo Lucas Garcia in a bloodless coup.

Guatemalan officials described General Mejia Victores as being to the right of General Rios Montt.



President Rios Montt: Convinced God made him President.

The Honduran press said yesterday that General Mejia Victores had met General Paul Corrales, chief of the US Southern Command in Panama, last weekend along with Honduran military chiefs on board the aircraft carrier Ranger.

The proclamation reaffirmed the Army's commitment to eradicating what it described as Marxist-Leninist subversion. It said the Military Council would support ways of leading Guatemala along a democratic path but made no mention of elections.

It accused an "aggressive, fanatical religious group" of taking over positions of power and abusing government positions for its own benefit.

General Mejia Victores would keep his post as Defence Minister while assuming the presidency.

General Rios Montt had taken power amid growing violence in Guatemala's 20-year-old guerrilla war. After mounting criticism he imposed measures to restrict freedom of expression on June 29, only three months after lifting a state of emergency under which all political activity was banned.

Elections for a constituent assembly are scheduled for July 1 next year, and 30 political groups have applied to take part.

The Guatemalan Army a year ago launched a "final offensive" against left-wing guerrillas. Western military sources say it put the guerrillas on the defensive but has failed to crush them.

The guerrilla campaign has been watched with keen interest by the US in view of Guatemala's geographical position between El Salvador, with its left-wing insurgents, and Mexico's rich southern oilfields.

P&O board victor steps forward

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Sterling Guaranty Trust, has won his bid to become executive chairman of P&O, one of Britain's leading shipping groups, succeeding Lord Inchcape, the present chairman.

His appointment will be confirmed after a board meeting on Thursday. The announcement had not been expected until next month when P&O announces its profit figures.

Matters had been brought to a head by P&O restricting a £300m takeover bid from Trafalgar House, the property group which also owns the Cunard shipping line.

Most of the present P&O board had been due to retire this summer, but Lord Inchcape decided to stay on to help fight off the Trafalgar bid. It is ironic that Lord Inchcape should be leaving P&O as he began fighting off an unwanted bid approach.

Eleven years ago Bovis made a bid for P&O. Lord Inchcape thwarted that, became chairman and two years later took over Bovis.

Mr Sterling is respected within the Government. He has been a special adviser on industry and finance at the Department of Trade and Industry for several years.

Mr Sterling's attitudes to the changing structure of British industry are closely attuned to those of the present Administration.

Town and City holds strategic stakes in many of Britain's sleepy industrial companies. Mr Sterling is 48, single and involved in extensive charity work.



Mr Sterling: In tune with government views.

Libya threatens to shoot down American Awacs

By Our Foreign Staff

The Libyan Air Force has been ordered to shoot down United States Awacs (Airborne Warning and Control System) aircraft whenever they "affect Libyan territory", the official Libyan news agency, Jans, said yesterday.

The warning came in a one-paragraph dispatch under a Tripoli dateline saying: "The Libyan Air Force has been given orders to strike at US Awacs planes whenever it becomes evident to the Libyan Air Force that they affect Libyan territory."

President Reagan has ordered two Awacs and several support aircraft to northern Africa to monitor the fighting in Chad between Libyan-backed rebels and the Government of President Hissene Habré.

The Awacs is an electronic command post that can stay aloft at about 30,000 ft for 11 hours watching for enemy aircraft and naval vessels. Its radar can spot small aircraft up



to 175 miles distant, and larger ones at a distance of up to 360 miles if the radar is aimed above the horizon.

Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, has told the United Nations Security Council that international security faces a grave threat as a result of "the landing of United States forces of all kinds in Egyptian, Sudanese, Somali and Omani territory."

In a letter dated last Friday and published yesterday, Colonel Gaddafi appeared to be referring to joint United States

military exercises with those countries. He said: "The landing of these forces presents a direct threat to the security of my country." Libya was ready to defend itself wherever threatened.

In a separate letter to the council, Mr Aved Barwile, the Libyan representative, drew attention to what he said was a dangerous situation in the Mediterranean region and Africa caused by the United States.

Meanwhile, in Chad, the Libyans resumed their intensive bombing of the northern desert outpost of Faya-Largeau, breaking the relative calm that had settled over the area since late last week. Government officials said the Libyan aircraft carried out three raids at the beginning of the afternoon; six aircraft made up the first wave.

In Ndjamena, a captured Libyan pilot said he had led a 12-strong squadron of Soviet-built Sukhoi SU22 fighter-

Continued on back page, col 6

Pound stands firm as dollar surges

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The dollar's surge resumed unchecked yesterday, with the pound alone of the world's leading currencies standing its ground.

Growing fears of further increases in American interest rates propelled the dollar to a 9½-year peak of more than 2.70 Deutschmarks and to records against the French franc, the Italian lira and other European currencies.

News that the big US banks, led by Citibank, raised their prime lending rates from 10½ to 11 per cent had been widely expected. Prime rates - the cost of loans to the banks' best corporate customers - tend to lag behind changes in other American rates.

But disappointing US money supply figures late on Friday and predicted again this week, together with some gloomy forecasts from influential Wall Street analysts, have fuelled concern that interest rates may

have to go up again to choke off excess money growth.

Dealers said that intervention yesterday by central banks on the foreign exchange markets to stem the dollar's climb - which has totalled more than \$2bn (£1.35bn) since it began on a concerted basis just over a week ago - was on a smaller scale than last week, and failed to make much impact.

The pound, which looked exposed as a consequence of the British Government's decision not to join the concerted intervention, returned to its well-trodden path by rising with the dollar against other currencies.

It gained 50 points on the dollar to \$1.4905 in London, after dropping to a low of \$1.4725 early on.

It also climbed steeply against European currencies, leaving its average value against a basket of leading currencies 0.2 higher at 84.5.

Wall Street, page 13

Americans too fast for Wells

By Our Sports Staff

Allan Wells narrowly failed to win Britain's first medal at the world athletics championships in Helsinki when he finished fourth behind three Americans in the 100 metres yesterday.

Carl Lewis took the gold medal in 10.07sec. The world record holder, Calvin Smith, was second in 10.21sec and Emmitt King third in 10.24sec. Wells, who won the gold medal in the Moscow Olympics, which the Americans boycotted - was by no means disgraced with a time of 10.27sec.

In the women's final, a torn hamstring spoiled Evelyn Ashford's chances of emulating her male American colleagues. Marlies Goech of East Germany won in 10.97sec, ahead of her compatriot Maria Koch. Miss Ashford's injury forced her to pull out after 60 metres.

The British heptathlete, Judy Livermore, led the field yesterday after three of the seven events. But with her weaker events to come today she will do well to finish in the first six. She ran within one hundredth of a second of her best in the 100 metres hurdles and then followed up with a personal best - and the best by anyone in a heptathlon - when she cleared 1.92 metres in the high jump.

In the 800 metres, Peter Elliott, Britain's main hope in the absence of Sebastian Coe, reached the final as one of the fastest losers with a time of 1min 45.38sec. "When I came here I just wanted to make the semi-finals and when I saw the semi-final line-up I didn't expect to make the final," he said. "Whatever happens now, I know I am one of the best eight in the world."

Reports and results, page 19

I.Q. of 145 and Can't Remember?

A FAMOUS international publisher reports that there is a simple technique for acquiring a powerful memory which can pay you real dividends in both business and social advancement. It works like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence and greater popularity.

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Rap on knuckles for Soviet shirkers

From Richard Owen

Moscow
The Soviet Government's new drive for work discipline has been greeted with grumbles and some apprehension at a time when most Russians are on holiday and trying not to think of production quotas.

Under the new regulations, published in all Soviet papers on Sunday and widely discussed yesterday, workers found guilty of persistent absenteeism, poor work performance or - most commonly - drunkenness will be given lower-paid jobs immediately.

To ensure that the earnings

loss hits home, shirkers will not be allowed to resign and seek higher-paid work for three months.

In some cases (at the discretion of management) drunkards may not even be given the option of a drop in income but dismissed on the spot. When they do find new work, idlers and slackers will normally only be entitled to half the usual monthly bonus in their new jobs.

If it can be proved that their behaviour has led to a loss of production, miscreants will be obliged to pay a proportion of the estimated loss out of their

wages (or in the case of drunkards the entire amount).

Absenteeism is to be punished by a cut in holiday entitlement (one day of holiday for every work day lost) and those absent from their work-place without reasonable cause for more than three hours will be considered absent for the day.

President Andropov launched a campaign against slacking shortly after taking power, but the campaign had recently lost momentum. Some Russians approve of his attempt to enforce discipline through draconian measures.

Others seem to hope that a renewed display of zeal by factory managers after the holiday will be followed by more traditional tolerance of idleness, inefficiency and fondness for the vodka bottle.

The new measures, which also include rewards for the diligent and efficient (and sober) are to be enforced by the "work collectives" established under a law passed in June.

Pravda said yesterday that the collectives would use group discussion and self-criticism to ensure that socialist discipline was seen as a long-term goal rather than a temporary one.



Volvo trucks, ordered through the British office. "While this is essentially a Swedish company, the equipment in question, a number of Volvo BM860 dump trucks, have a British manufactured content of some 40 per cent."

Speed is believed to be a vital factor in the construction of the airport: the consortium has

Speed essential for new airport Falklands contract for US firm

By Our Business Staff

Britain has been awarded 18 per cent of a contract to supply earth-moving equipment to build the new £215m airport on the Falklands.

The equipment will be provided by the British part of the US Caterpillar company. The rest of the contract, for an undisclosed sum, has gone to the company's factories in the US and the EEC.

A statement from the Laing-Mowlem-Amey Roadstone consortium, which won the overall contract a month ago, lists the British suppliers of other equipment. It then explains why the Caterpillar machinery is being bought, and also the off-highway dump trucks from Volvo of Sweden.

A consortium official would not say how much was being spent on each purchase, nor what percentage of the total purchases each represented. The statement confined itself to saying that orders are being placed "largely with British firms".

The consortium says of the

been told it must start work by October, have the runway usable by April, 1985, and the whole airport completed by February, 1986.

In the case of Caterpillar, the statement says that its equipment was chosen "as it is the only single manufacturer able to supply the range of equipment required for the project."

Caterpillar has two factories in Britain, at Glasgow and Newcastle, which generated sales worth £149m last year. Its EEC plants, however, will fulfil 61 per cent of its contract, with "the remaining 21 per cent, which is equipment unobtainable in Britain or in the EEC, manufactured in the United States."

Contracts awarded to British suppliers are: road trucks and Land Rovers - British Leyland; crushers - Goodwin-Barby; compressors - Compair; generating sets - Petbow and Tripower; compaction equipment - Aveling Barford; forklift trucks - JCB; pumps - Sykes; dumpers and concrete equipment - Benford; tractors and trailers - Ford.

Paper plant reopened by new owners

A newspaper plant which was closed by the Bowater Corporation three years ago began production under new management last night, bringing the promise of some relief to the Merseyside region's critically high unemployment (Ronald Faux writes).

Consolidated Bathurst, of Canada, the new owners of the plant at Ellesmere Port, have invested £40m in automatic equipment and expect that when production reaches a target of 520,000 tonnes a year, 450 workers will be employed directly with more jobs generated indirectly through transport and maintenance contracts.

The company has reached agreement for the print union Sogat '82 to be the sole union representing the workforce. It has declined to discuss recognition of the Electrical, Electronic and Plumbing Union, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which have all made approaches to the company.

Dr James Jarvis, employee relations manager, said yesterday that recognition of one appropriate union was now the accepted and most efficient course throughout industry.

Consolidated Bathurst clearly wishes to avoid the earlier troubled position at the plant when nine unions held recognition agreements.

Tougher Press Council urged
Mr John Heddle, Conservative MP for Mid-Shropshire, is to press for laws to strengthen the powers of the Press Council after its censure of *The Sun* for publishing a fabricated interview with a Falklands war widow.

Mr Heddle said yesterday he was writing to the Prime Minister to urge government backing for a private member's bill aimed at giving the council "regulatory teeth". The council's criticism amounted to no more than a rap across the newspaper's wrist, he said.

Model cannon injures boy
Jeffrey Teasdale, aged 16, of Mackenzie Crescent, Burncross, near Sheffield, was injured yesterday by a six-inch replica naval cannon made in his school metalwork shop.

With three friends he went to local woods and tried to fire it. The gunpowder exploded and the gun leapt in the air, breaking his jaw. His father, Mr Anthony Teasdale, said: "I think he has learnt a hard lesson. I don't think he realized just how dangerous this was."

Smoking ban opposed
A survey in Edinburgh has shown people to be against banning smoking on buses.

About 65 per cent of regular bus users interviewed by Forest, the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco said the present system - smokers upstairs, non-smokers downstairs, should stay. Edinburgh councillors are to vote next Monday on whether or not to ban smoking on the city's buses.

MP improves
Mr John Blackburn, aged 49, Conservative MP for Dudley West, was said to be making satisfactory progress in hospital yesterday.

He was taken to the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, last Wednesday after a severe heart attack.

Disabled face overtime ban threat by social workers

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Hundreds of homes for elderly people, children and the disabled are likely to be thrown into chaos next month when industrial action by residential social workers is expected to start.

A ballot of the 25,000 workers who belong to the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo) is expected to agree an overtime ban in support of a demand for parity with other local government workers.

The ballot, which closes on September 1, is also asking for a ban on admissions to homes, which would force councils to place people in need of residential care in private or voluntary homes, often at a higher cost.

Nearly seven out of ten residential social workers belong to Nalgo, and their frustration at the lack of progress in achieving similar conditions to those of field social workers is expected to result in a vote for an overtime ban.

That will stretch beyond the limit the capacity of many homes to provide 24-hour care for residents; many depend on the willingness of staff to work more than the basic 39-hour week.

If the call for an admissions ban is also carried, local authorities will be left with a statutory duty to provide residential homes for vulnerable children, elderly, or handi-

capped people without their own establishments being available. If they are not to breach their legal responsibilities, they will have to place such people in private or voluntary homes.

Mr Dennis Reed, the union's social services officer, said yesterday that employers had been using moral blackmail for years to keep down the pay and conditions of residential workers.

After five years of negotiations, the employers had refused to discuss further the claim for premium payments for working shifts, irregular hours and weekend working, a reduction of the working week to 35 hours, and special payments for public holiday working.

Mr Reed added: "Our members' patience is exhausted and we are calling for a resounding 'Yes' vote to both questions to stop discrimination against these staff."

"Our members are deeply committed to their clients, which is why there is no question of all-out strike action. Our aim is to cause as much inconvenience and extra cost as possible to the employers without harming the clients."

But the union admits that an overtime ban could lead to some homes being closed because of lack of staff willing to work more than the basic week, and serious disruptions in other.



Working in: Nurses at the threatened hospital in Bradford yesterday.

Medical staff take over hospital in closure battle

Doctors and nurses who have taken over an old people's hospital yesterday rejected a plea to end their action and promised to continue their fight to save it from closure.

With other hospital staff, and claiming the support of

patients' relatives, they are taking part in a "work in" at the Thornton View Hospital at Clayton, Bradford, which has 82 beds.

Health unions said that financial reasons put forward for the closure, were "cold" and "ruthless" and would

rob the city of 10 per cent of its geriatric care. Yesterday local health authority chairman, Mr Royston Moor, said that jobs would be lost if the hospital stayed open.

A final decision on closure now rests with Mr Kenneth Clarke, Health Minister.

London police has 'organization defects'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The most searching study of the Metropolitan Police ever carried out, published in the autumn, will disclose significant criticisms, many of which can be traced back to weaknesses in the organization.

One of the criticisms in the report, by the Policy Studies Institute, is that relations with young black people in London give ground for serious concern. As part of the inquiries, a black researcher at the institute, Mr Stephen Small, lived for nine months with a group of young black people in a self-help hostel.

Although the institute refuses to divulge any results until its four-volume summary is published, findings are being studied by senior officers.

The report, which contains recommendations for change, is compiled from three years of research, including long hours spent by Mr David Smith, senior fellow at the institute, and Mr Jeremy Grey, who the police at stations and in police cars, together with interviews and close study of documents and other information.

Senior officers at Scotland Yard are also engaged in their own wide-ranging internal questioning about the direction the force should be taking.

But since he had been admitted to hospital last Friday, his condition was improved and he was comfortable, eating normally and able to communicate with members of his family.

Lord Gormley, aged 66, will stay in hospital for some days while doctors assess his response to treatment. He is in a private ward.

Laser eye test 'can replace letter chart'

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

A British laser company is about to introduce an instant eye-testing device which its inventor believes will soon sweep away the traditional method of reading letters on a wall chart.

Opticians are taking a keen interest in the £1,250 LaserSpec machine developed by Dr Paul Cook, owner of the Scientific-Cook company in west London. He already has hundreds of orders, he says.

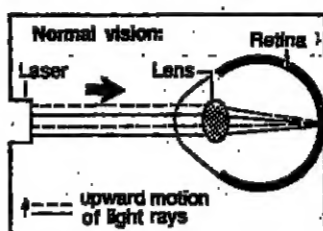
Clement Clarke, a firm running 100 opticians' shops in Britain, is buying 50 machines for a trial; a much larger order may follow from its subsidiary selling optical instruments in the United States.

LaserSpec machines will appear first during the autumn in shop windows, with signs inviting passers-by to test their sight and call in for a proper eye examination if their vision is defective.

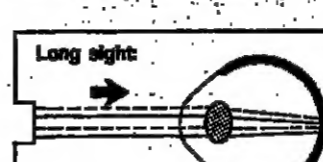
A glance at the speckle pattern on the LaserSpec screen shows the basic defects immediately. If the speckles are moving upwards you are long-sighted, if they are moving downwards you are short-sighted and if they are stationary your vision is satisfactory.

But ophthalmic opticians are a conservative group and they will want to evaluate the LaserSpec much more thoroughly before admitting it to their professional dens. Until then it will be used as a self-screening device, in shop windows, health centres, and elsewhere.

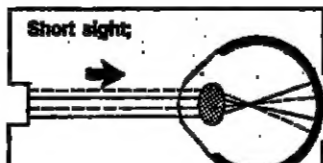
Mr John Clarke, chairman of Clement Clarke, says that his



Normal vision: though laser rays are made to "shift" upwards, eye focuses all rays on retina correctly - rays do not appear to be moving.



Long sight: rays not focused on retina - still appear to be moving upwards.



Short sight: rays focus before retina - upward motion inverted to downward motion.

company's screenings at factories and other workplaces show at least 30 per cent of the population need some optical correction. Many people who need spectacles do not have them and others have outdated prescriptions.

Diplomats' unions seek improved schools allowance

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Unions representing staff in the diplomatic service have advocated improvements in the system under which the private school fees of their children are paid in whole or in part by the Government's boarding school allowance.

A memorandum from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to the Commons foreign affairs committee published yesterday, disclosed that fewer than 1 per cent of the children whose parents receive the allowance go to local authority boarding schools.

The unions, in their memorandum, called for an end to the "grossing up" system under which the allowance paid to officers in Britain is set at a higher figure to offset the extra income tax they are required to pay on it. The system, they say, is inequitable because it means that the officer is placed in an artificially higher tax bracket.

They also urge the removal of the contribution by the parents to the cost of one of three return journeys by a child to join them for holidays, which they say penalizes staff in distant posts.

They propose that the allowance rate for staff education should be set at the same rate as boys'. "We hope that the committee will favour the removal of this minor legacy of the days of sexual inequality."

A list of schools showed Windesham House School to be the most popular, with 35 children of diplomats being educated there, followed by Bedales School (29), Ashford (28), Wellington (27), Royal Russell School (26) and Eton (25).

In another memorandum, the union side of the diplomatic service, the Diplomatic Service Union, Society of Civil and Public Servants, Civil and Public Services Association, Diplomatic Service Association and the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, said that parents did not see the allowance as a privilege but as the only practical way the Government could fulfil its obligation to make the education offered to children in this country.

The nature of the diplomatic

Tory gifts curb 'just a sop'

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government was moving against the trade union political levy, out of "pure political spite" and to injure the Labour Party, Mr David Hughes, Labour's national agent, said yesterday.

He was dismissing as "a sop" suggestions that the Government might be considering changes in the law to define the right of companies to give money to political parties.

The idea of regulating the way firms contribute to Conservative Party funds has been put forward by some MPs as a way of deflecting charges of unfair treatment if the Government acts against the trade union levy.

But it emerged yesterday that no firm plans have yet been considered by ministers and the issue has not been formally discussed between Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Industry, responsible respectively for the union and company sides.

Michelin strikers to return

Michelin workers yesterday voted unanimously to end their month-long strike after hearing the company had backed down over the introduction of a continental shift system.

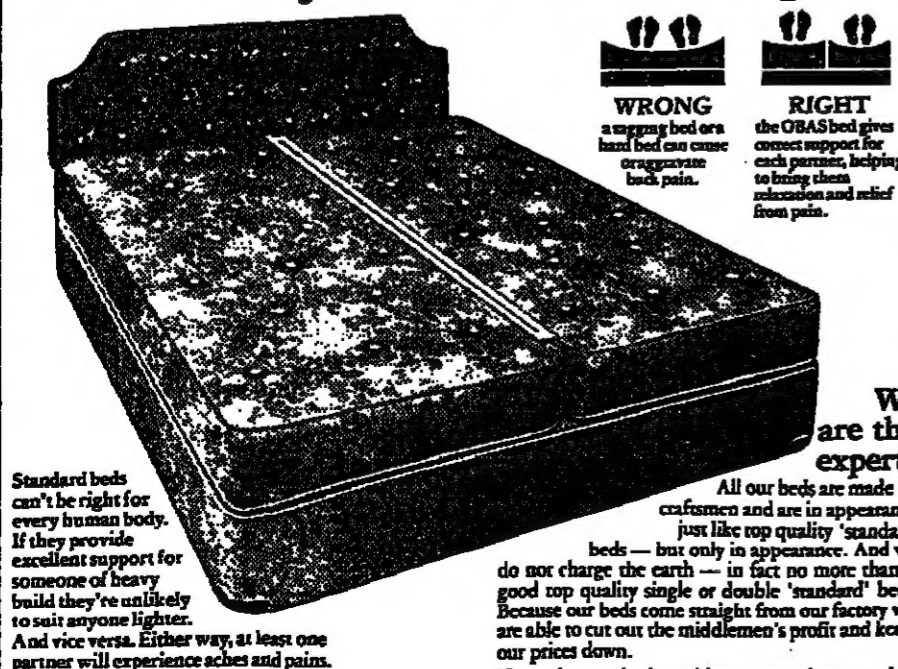
Workers were expected to start returning last night with a full resumption at the Stoke-on-Trent works by early next week.

More than 1,200 men and women were told by Mr John Miller, national secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union: "The company have conceded to all our conditions for a return to work." These included the withdrawal of an ultimatum to work or be dismissed.

Union officials will meet the management today to negotiate the full return-to-work.

But Mr Miller added that the company had said that without the continental shifts it was carrying 30 surplus jobs. The shift system could have meant the men working two day time shifts, three late shifts and then two night shifts before getting a day off.

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Whitehall brief Sir John takes aim at a second target

By Peter Hennessy

This time last year a timebomb was being prepared in the East Anglian countryside by the epitome of an English gentleman for detonation three months later at the Savoy Hotel in London before an audience of politicians, civil servants and tax experts.

Sir John Hoskyns, for three years Mrs Thatcher's senior policy adviser at Number 10, had decided it was time to blow the whistle on Whitehall.

His message to the annual dinner of the Institute for Fiscal Studies was *ex cathedra* (contributions to the great Civil Service debate are often in code), brutal and stark: Britain's system of government was not up to solving the nation's difficulties.

To break free from a cycle of decline, ministers needed different advice from different people. The senior Civil Service had presided over 30 years of failure. Officials had given up. Without a substantial transfusion of new blood from outside, there was no hope.

In nine months the effect of Sir John's whistleblowing has been substantial. Within two months his thesis received an elegant rebuttal from Sir Douglas Wass, then Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, who saw a grave risk of politicizing Whitehall and of serving up to ministers only the kind of advice they wanted to hear.



Sir John Hoskyns in Whitehall.

But Sir Douglas, like the other heavyweights who subsequently weighed in - Sir Frank Cooper, former Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, Lord Hunt of Tanworth, former Secretary of the Cabinet - have, while stopping short of Sir John's radicalism, all emphasized the need for change. Lord Hunt in particular concentrated on the weakness at the heart of central government, pressing the need for a better back-up for the prime minister.

Sir John is content with the outcome so far, though hurt by a bit of a whispering campaign that his motives are impure. He deliberately over-egged his emphasis on the need to replace some permanent secretaries with outsiders in the hope of provoking them to reply. He succeeded. He is particularly gratified by the number of younger officials who have thanked him for opening up the debate. The Hoskyns style is to emphasize the need for hard analysis, long-term strategy and finding the right people to implement it, just the kind of

thing he believes successive Whitehall generations have failed to provide for Cabinets, particularly on economic, financial, industrial and trade union issues. In the autumn we shall experience Hoskyns, phase two.

This time it will be the turn of the politicians. No doubt some suitable sharp phrases are being turned at this very moment. In fact, Sir John believes there are three closed, interlocking societies which feed off each other to the detriment of the nation: "Whitehall, Westminster and Fleet Street know each other so well that they almost know nothing about anything else; they are not up to the scale of the problems we have got to solve."

The civil servants in 1982, the politicians in 1983, why not the political journalists next year? 1984 just happens to be the centenary of the Westminster lobby correspondents, main dealers in the raw material of political information since the age of Gladstone and Salisbury. Who better as a target for Hoskyns, phase three?

Times guide to Commons

The Times Guide to the House of Commons, setting out all the details of the general election on June 9, will be published on August 18.

The guide contains photographs and biographies of the 650 MPs, a review of the election campaign by Julian Haviland, Political Editor, and of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's first Parliament as Prime Minister by Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent.

A survey of the voting by David Butler, Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford, and Robert Waller, Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, is accompanied by a detailed statistical analysis on a regional, metropolitan and county basis.

The guide, compiled by the parliamentary staff of *The Times*, cost £15 and is published by Times Books Ltd of 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN (Tel: 01-434-3767).

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مكتبات الأصيل

Police trace car sold by doctor a week after his wife disappeared

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Essex police yesterday began a detailed forensic examination of a car sold by Dr Robert Jones, whose wife disappeared last month prompting a big investigation.

Mrs Diane Jones, aged 35, vanished from the family home on the outskirts of the village of Coggeshall near Colchester on July 23 but her husband did not report the disappearance for nine days.

During the weekend in lengthy interviews with police the doctor was asked about a blue Peugeot estate car he said he had sold it but could not give many details.

The car was advertised for sale on July 21 and sold on July 30.

It was traced yesterday by the police to its new owner in Essex after an appeal on local radio.

Forensic science experts began examining it after completing a short but detailed search of parts of the family home, a converted eighteenth-century farmhouse, yesterday. They could be seen working in an upstairs room for part of the day as the doctor tried to continue his normal day-to-day routine.

But before going to his surgery he left a press statement stuck on his kitchen window in which he said he had tried to assist the police at every stage and had agreed to the forensic search.

The statement said the doctor had willingly agreed to the search and it had been carried



Mrs Jones: Disappeared before, husband says.

out at the weekend so that it did not prevent him working in his practice.

Apart from the statement Dr Jones would not answer any questions from the press yesterday.

Dr Jones spent most of the morning at his surgery and making house calls. He covered his face with a newspaper when confronted by photographers.

When he returned home at lunchtime, driven by his secretary, he refused to leave the car until waiting reporters and photographers were moved.

Eventually he hurried to the front door after a confrontation between the secretary and journalists.

Later, a police officer came out of the house, and told journalists that the doctor was "concerned" about them gathering around his front gate and told them to leave.

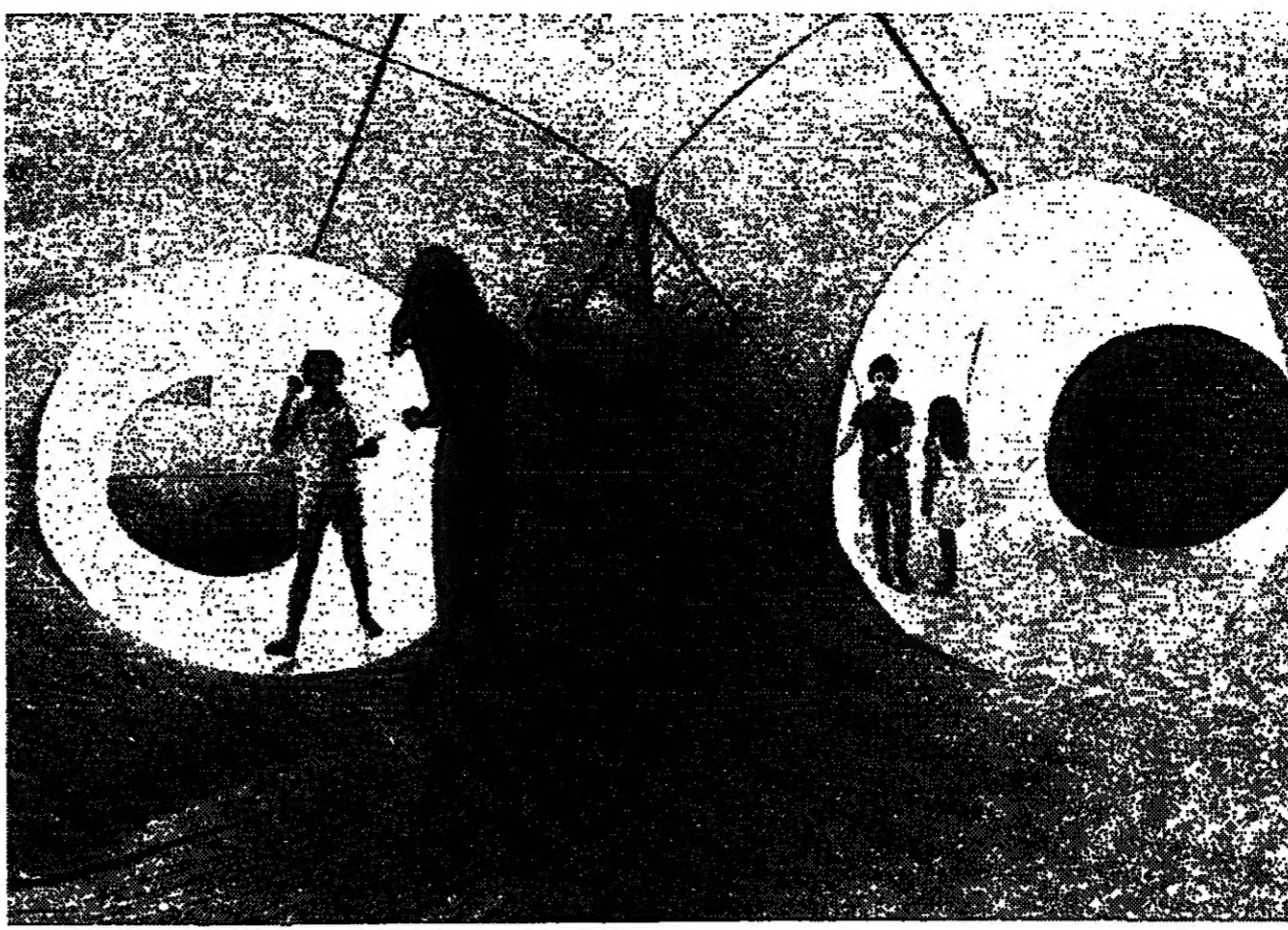
Later in the day Det. Supt. Michael Ainsley, who is in charge of the search, said he would be talking to Dr Jones again later in the inquiry.

The doctor's wife, a social worker, vanished, according to her husband, after he had driven her home from a village public house. The doctor dropped off his wife, who had been drinking heavily, at the door of the family house and then went to park his car. When he returned she had gone.

The woman, who had a drink problem, had disappeared before. At the time of the disappearance the couple were planning a divorce. They have a daughter aged 19 months who is in care.

Mrs Jones was last seen in public being carried by her husband out of the Woolpack Inn public house. Yesterday the police were still questioning her relatives and associates of her friends.

Forensic scientists yesterday began a detailed examination of Dr Jones's present car which was damaged in a collision last Friday night. He is due to appear in court on a drink-driving charge on August 17.



Rival attraction: Visitors to the Barbican Centre in London often complain of getting lost. Now, on level eight, if they can find it, they can try a real maze, inflatable and multicoloured. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Film-makers claim Nessie sightings

A team from the United States, which has been monitoring the surface of Loch Ness with a video camera for the past week, believes it may have seen the monster on two occasions.

The first claimed sighting was towards the eastern end of the loch. The team says it saw an object about 15ft to 20ft long, crossing the waves and raising its "head" out of the water. The second, from a point over Urquhart Bay, much further along the loch, was of an object about 30ft long moving about three feet below the surface.

The team of two, from the National Crypto Zoological Society and led by Erik Beckford, a wildlife photographer, has been scanning the surface from points along the shore with a camera capable of filming for 240 hours without a break.

Twins aged four die in fire

Two girls aged four, who died when fire wrecked their home were named yesterday as Sarah and Louise Matkin.

Mrs Janet Matkin, aged 29, their mother, escaped from the blazing terraced house in Hoon Road, Hutton, Derbyshire on Sunday with another daughter aged 20 months in her arms.

Death threat remand

Dunstan Dunstan, aged 29, who lives on a barge, on the Grand Union Canal at Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, was further remanded in custody until August 15 yesterday accused of threatening to kill the Prince of Wales.

Mr Dunstan, who appeared at Aylesbury Magistrates' Court is alleged to have made the threat in a letter to the deputy editor of a local newspaper.

New heart

Mr James Paget, a publican aged 46 from Stepney, east London, has become the 65th patient to undergo a heart transplant at Harfield Hospital. His condition was stable yesterday.

Tramp deaths

Detectives investigating claims by a tramp that he murdered eight vagrants in London believe that it will take them until the end of this week to search death records to establish whether the claims are true.

Third delay in Davey inquest

An inquest into the death of Mr James Davey, of Coventry, who died after collapsing while in police custody, has been delayed for the third time.

The inquest was to be held today but Mr Charles Kenderdine, the Coventry coroner, is still waiting to hear from the Director of Public Prosecutions who is considering a police report on the incident. Mr Davey, who was aged 40, died in March.

Chemistry hit by lack of young staff

University chemistry teaching and research is at risk because of spending cuts and the most serious problem is said to be the lack of young teaching staff.

The conclusion in a report published this month by the Royal Society of Chemistry, is based on a survey by the committee of Heads of University Chemistry Departments.

The committee says that in a discipline where the new ideas so vital to research emerge to a great extent from the younger staff, the dearth of young people is intolerable.

The overall prediction is one of despair in the long term. Hampered by the lack of foresight which initiated the cuts.

City defends choice of organist

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

Two former organ scholars at King's College, Cambridge, were on a short but detailed search of parts of the family home, a converted eighteenth-century farmhouse, yesterday. They could be seen working in an upstairs room for part of the day as the doctor tried to continue his normal day-to-day routine.

But before going to his surgery he left a press statement stuck on his kitchen window in which he said he had tried to assist the police at every stage and had agreed to the forensic search.

MP seeks action on Nazi inventor

The Government is being urged to act to bring the Nazi inventor of the mobile gas chamber to justice. Mr David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North, wants pressure put on Chile to deport Walter Rauff, a former SS colonel alleged to be responsible for the deaths of 200,000 people.

Mr Winnick claims that Rauff is more notorious than Klaus Barbie, the so-called "Butcher of Lyons", who is soon to stand trial for war crimes in France.

Mr Winnick added: "As long as he is allowed to be free, it is mocking the victims of his killings."

Mr Winnick, who plans to press the Government to act with the Americans and West Germans to win Rauff's extradition, said that if no government made a move, anti-fascist terrorist groups could try to kidnap him.

"I intend to pursue this in Parliament because I am convinced the British Government do not want to know about it", Mr Winnick said.

He is puzzled by Rauff's escape which, like that of Barbie, came after his arrest at the end of the Second World War. "What concerns me is the possibility that it could well be that American intelligence, even though they knew of his atrocities, allowed him to escape."

"It seems odd that both Barbie and Rauff managed to get free. Barbie helped American intelligence; one does not know what happened to Rauff."

Across the academic divide: 2

A touch of Brideshead but no pomposity

In a second article on an exchange between Malvern, the public school, and a Wolverhampton comprehensive, Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, examines how the state school boys saw their public school contemporaries.

In the same way as the Malvernians thought the state school boys would be yobs, the students from St Peter's Collegiate School, Wolverhampton, thought the public school boys would be snooty and possibly homosexual.

Their pews of such schools were gleamed from *Brideshead Revisited* and books like *Tom Brown's School Days*.

"I expected the pupils to be far more reserved than they actually are and I expected them to be very snobbish", Martin Ward, a St Peter's lower sixth former, said.

"I expected the meals to be poor and a general atmosphere of dullness to be present. I expected great emphasis to be placed on certain established subjects, and very rigid teachers to be present."

Instead, he found the food to be surprisingly good and the other boys to be friendly. "The likes and dislikes and general attitudes of the sixth-form boys were very similar to mine, which I did not expect to find in a public school", he added.

The St Peter's boys agreed that the public schoolboys were not snobbish ("though they all talked posh"). Martin Lee,

another of the St Peter's sixth-formers, commented: "The school is rather ostentatious, resembling *Brideshead*, but the manner of the place is in no way pompous. It was a great time, or as great a time as a school can be." Praise indeed.

Jan de Vry expected Malvern to be much more strict and disciplined than it was. "I had heard rumours of the working hours and thought they would be very uncomfortable to live with."

"Everything was more relaxed but not slack. The teachers and house masters were very friendly and made most lessons quite interesting, especially the ones I find very boring at St Peter's."

Not surprisingly, the state schoolboys were a great deal more impressed with Malvern than the Malvernians were with St Peter's. There is no denying the superior facilities at Malvern: a large and well-stocked library, a wide range of sports and a spectacular, modern art centre.

"The facilities are a lot better", Jan de Vry said. "With places like the library, people can enjoy working. The library, for instance, has a relaxing atmosphere, with easy chairs for reading and private tables to work at."

"When it comes to working hours, everyone is the same and there are no distractions from people phoning up and asking if you are coming out, or

television programmes to watch. At Malvern it is decided for you. This rule is not uncomfortable or hated because it is the same for every one."

Martin Lee made the same point. "Working simultaneously is a benefit as everyone knows they have to work, and everyone knows they aren't missing out on what their friend is doing. Your friend is next door if you are stuck on something."

But the St Peter's boys were not convinced the education was better and thought the standard of teaching was about the same, and in some cases worse. "The only reason they get more O levels is that their revision is better", according to Paul Johns, aged 17, an upper sixth-former from the comprehensive who went on the exchange. "On a few occasions I thought that the teaching was not as good as we have at St Peter's."

The St Peter's boys were much more intrigued by Malvern than the Malvernians were by St Peter's. They liked the way in which the school day was organized so that the afternoon could be devoted to sport, and lessons then resumed at 4.30pm. Although all four spent sport at St Peter's, they took to it enthusiastically at Malvern. Public school muscularity is infectious.

"I actually prefer the working hours after experiencing them and I think I could do a lot

more work than I am at St Peter's", Jan de Vry said. "The freedom of not having parents around is great, and there are many social activities to find and the desire to walk down the path to a squash court or any sport is there."

They were fascinated by the elaborate prefect system, which carries with it a bizarre lot of privileges and uniforms, and by the solidarity expressed in such a closed community. They happened to visit Malvern after the expulsion of a boy who had broken the school rules one too many times.

The whole school rose up in what the St Peter's boys saw as a stunning act of corporate rebellion. A silent chapel was held, with the Malvern boys refusing to utter. The headmaster had to say the prayers and sing on his own.

When I visited the Wolverhampton school Martin Lee, a passionate CND supporter, got into a vigorous discussion with Mr Ronald Storer, the head, about disarmament. By contrast, the Malvernians admitted that they did not talk freely to their headmaster.

But it was the similarities which struck them in the end. "I now appreciate that the standard of my state education is comparable with a private education, better for some subjects in my view", Martin Ward said.

Concluded

Commuters flood 'archaic' roads

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

More Londoners are commuting to work by car and bicycle, and fewer by bus and Tube, the latest figures show.

The number of people cycling and motor cycling to work has nearly tripled, over the past 10 years. Car commuting grew by 14 per cent over the same period, but traffic by public transport declined: rail by 11 per cent, Underground by 22 per cent, and bus by 31 per cent.

Coming at a time when the Greater London Council has been cutting investment in roads, the latest figures show that "it is time the Government faced up to its responsibilities and promised London an adequate road building programme". Mr Jeremy Hawkesley, of the road lobby Movement for London, said.

"Figures show a long-term trend away from public transport", Mr Hawkesley said, "but whereas Londoners pay over £1.2bn in road taxes each year they are given in return a congested and archaic road network."

"Between 1972 and 1982 the number of people commuting by car or bike had risen from 185,000 to 235,000 - an increase of 27 per cent. But passengers by rail, bus, and Underground had dropped from 967,000 to 788,000."

The Greater London Council said: "Everything Movement in London say underlines the need for cheap fares in London to keep down traffic congestion. March 1982 was when fares on London Transport doubled, and traffic increased as a result."

PASSENGERS ENTERING CENTRAL LONDON between 7 and 10 am (thousands)									
	1972	1975	1978	1981	1982	% Change 1972-82	% Change 1975-82	% Change 1978-82	% Change 1981-82
British Rail London Transport - Underground	442	403	409	394	391	- 11	- 11	- 11	- 3
London Transport - Bus	361	344	325	348	298	- 22	- 22	- 22	- 14
Total public transport	144	148	133	105	89	- 31	- 31	- 31	- 6
Private cars	172	162	176	173	197	+ 14	+ 14	+ 14	+ 14
Motorcycles and cycles	13	19	24	26	38	+ 192	+ 46	+ 46	+ 46
Total private transport	185	181	200	199	235	+ 27	+ 27	+ 27	+ 18

Source: GLC Draft TFP

Woman in trousers loses claim to job

By a Staff Reporter

A woman who was dismissed from a crematorium after wearing a trouser suit to work had her claim for unfair dismissal rejected by an industrial tribunal in London yesterday and was ordered to pay £75 costs.

Mrs Jeanne Turnock, aged 40, was dismissed from her job as assistant memorial counsellor at Golders Green crematorium, north London, in March this year, after three written and two oral warnings about wearing trousers, the tribunal was told.

Mrs Turnock, of Rotherwick Road, Golders Green, started work at the crematorium in October, 1980, and started to wear a trouser suit during a cold spell at the end of February this year.

Her job included taking members of the public to inspect memorials in the grounds of the crematorium and she sometimes found herself ankle deep in mud, she told the tribunal.

Mrs Turnock, who was wearing the navy blue trouser suit which caused the argument, told the tribunal that she had specially bought the "lady's business trouser suit" after she had been off sick. She had ignored instructions not to wear it because she considered it appropriate.

Mr Frank Carey, managing director of the crematorium, said that most staff were aware of what was appropriate dress, although there was no specific guidance.

Mr Carey said that although he had no personal objection to women in trousers, he thought they were inappropriate for women working in a crematorium. "We are dealing with elderly people recently bereaved and a large number may find some offence in a lady in trousers coming to deal with them", he said.

Questioned on what else he considered inappropriate dress for employees, he listed miniskirts, see-through blouses, plunging necklines, teeshirts with slogans and men wearing sweaters or earrings.

Mr John Phillips, an attendant at Golders Green Crematorium between 1971 and 1978 and a former shop steward there, said that he had seen two women employed there wearing trousers on several occasions and that there had never been any complaints.

Mr David Coates, an official of the Furniture, Timber and Allied Trades Union, said that Mrs Turnock was under no contractual obligation to wear a particular kind of clothing.

The tribunal unanimously decided that the dismissal was fair and that Mrs Turnock had persistently refused to carry out a reasonable instruction.

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President running neck and neck with main rival in Nigeria's poll

Lagos (Reuters) - As partial results in Nigeria's presidential election became known yesterday, the race between the two leading candidates still appeared to be close.

Party sources said that counting from the poll on Saturday tended to confirm a contest between President Shagari of the National Party and Chief Obafemi Awolowo of the Unity Party. There are six candidates.

No complete result from any of Nigeria's 19 states is yet known, but enough tallies were in from constituencies for officials of the two parties to become excited about their chances.

Early results from Ilorin, capital of the state of Kwara which is held by the National Party, showed that the party was suffering a worse setback than expected after a leadership split there.

However, party officials were cheered by the news that President Shagari was polling well in the northern Kano state, where he won less than 20 per cent of the vote in the 1979 election. That election was supervised by the military, who handed over power to civilians after more than 13 years.

National Party officials also said the President was doing well in Ibadan, the western state capital of Oyo, one of four states dominated by Chief Awolowo's Yoruba tribe. President Shagari, a northern Mus-



Shagari

Awolowo

lim, made a big effort in Oyo for this election, and his party is hoping to get more than 25 per cent of the vote to gain the wide geographical spread he needs.

The winner has to take 25 per cent in two thirds of the states as well as a nationwide majority, a provision designed to end the domination of Nigerian politics by three main tribes. Unity Party officials said the party was holding on to the five states it won last time - the four western Yoruba states and Bendel to the east of Lagos. Mr Shagari had hoped to make significant advances in Bendel.

Final results are not expected until today at the earliest. Voting was still going on yesterday in two districts of the eastern Cross River state. Elsewhere, bad weather and inadequate communications have held up procedures.

● KANO: The elections have set at least one important precedent in this Muslim state: a big turnout by women.

Polling stations in the narrow streets of Kano City, 500 miles north-east of Lagos, were crowded with colourfully robed women breaching the Islamic custom of Purdah (seclusion of women).

"It looks as though there are as many women as men out today and they won't go home until they've voted," a resident said at one slow-moving queue for the ballot box.

Women in the Muslim north were not granted the vote until 1979, and purdah has prevented them from attending public political events. Rival parties in the state mounted special campaigns this year to attract their vote.

Kano has 7.6 million of Nigeria's 65 million registered voters. It is dominated by the Muslim Hausa-Fulani group. "The women's vote in the north could have significant implications for national politics," a Kano academic told journalists.

But while a growing number of women from middle and upper class urban families are taking up professions, most female town dwellers remain subject to traditional standards.

Even at Saturday's polls the separation of the sexes was maintained. Women and men queued at a respectable distance apart.



Iron fist Mr Mugabe greets supporters at the Harare rally where he said his party would rule forever.

Dossier on atrocities discounted

From Stephen Taylor Harare

The Zimbabwe Government's sensitivity over the Western press and the Matabeleland situation has been revived by a number of recent reports and in particular the claims of a priest.

Father Hebron Wilson, formerly based in the Tsholotsho district of Matabeleland and a member of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe, has compiled a dossier on military atrocities against civilians in the province since the Fifth Brigade was deployed there in January to curb growing guerrilla activity.

He says that although there has been a decline in the killings since the widespread massacres in February, there have been three serious incidents recently in which about 50 people have died.

The incidents are all said to have taken place in the Tsholotsho district and in one case involved 20 people being herded into a hut which was then set on fire.

Soon after Father Wilson started making his claims it became known that the Fifth Brigade, the Praetorian Guard drawn almost exclusively from the ruling Zanu (PF) Party, was being withdrawn from Matabeleland. It has been replaced by the Second Brigade, a more experienced and integrated unit.

The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace has refused to comment on Father Wilson's allegations and says it is unable to substantiate them. A spokesman said: "He is a respected member of the commission but this information is his and not ours."

The commission, which was a leading critic of military excesses committed by the Rhodesian security forces during the guerrilla war, came into conflict with the Zimbabwe government for the first time earlier this year when it became the first independent body to support press claims about the Matabeleland massacres.

The Government has dismissed Father Wilson's claims by suggesting that the deaths are the responsibility of anti-Government guerrillas and bandits in the region.

He is in no doubt that the Fifth Brigade is responsible. He says he has spent months compiling his report and has only decided to speak about his findings because he has been unable to get any response from the Government.

● NAIROBI: President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya warned "certain" foreign diplomats accredited here to stop involving themselves in electioneering in Kenya (AFP reports).

Supertanker's bow towed out to sea

Cape Town (AP) - The tugboat John Ross inched cautiously away from the African coast yesterday, towing the oil-taden bow of the Spanish supertanker, Castillo de Bellver, bobbing vertically out of the water.

The 283ft tug, moving at 1.4 knots, was trying to ease the charred bow section well off the coast without tipping it over, which officials fear would start a fresh oil spill.

The Castillo de Bellver cracked in half on Saturday after catching fire while rounding the Cape of Good Hope on a voyage from the Gulf to Spain. Thirty-one of the crew and two women passengers were rescued. The search for three missing seamen was called off yesterday.

The vessel carried 250,000 tons of crude oil which at first threatened South Africa's environmentally frail western shores.

The pollution has been safely riding the Benguela current out to sea and yesterday, no oil was reported washing ashore. The stern section sank before dawn on Sunday and later that day the bow was taken into tow.

A spokesman for Safmarine, South Africa's quasi-government Maritime Corporation, said that breezes out of the south-east had helped to keep seas calm and ease the tugboat's task.

Prevailing winds at this time of year are from the west, which officials fear will overturn the bow.

There was no indication from the tug what it will do with the bow. Safmarine spokesmen over the weekend said it should be scuttled in deep water. But a source at the company said that this could not be done until

Safmarine was assured no legal claims will be made on the split ship or the oil remaining inside.

● MADRID: Dazed crew members of the stricken vessel returned here yesterday to tearful reunions with their families (AP reports).

Sister Pedro Guera, Martinez, gripped his son, Pablo, aged 29, the supertanker's first mate.

"Calm down, Dad, calm down, everything's all right," the younger Guera said, with one arm around his father and the other around his wife, Maria del Pilar Gil, aged 23, who had accompanied her husband on the voyage.

A passing fishing vessel rescued 29 crew members and two wives from a lifeboat after they had abandoned the burning vessel.

Another two crew members were taken off the ship by a helicopter and one was picked up by a merchant ship.

Senior Armando Alvarez kept shaking his head as family members crowded around him. "I don't believe it, I don't believe it," he repeated after disembarking from the flight from Cape Town via London.

Most of the rescued crew members, however, had to face another wait for connecting flights to provincial cities before meeting their families.

Captain Alfonso Civera Alvarez remained in Cape Town for an official inquiry into the blaze. Three representatives of the Empresa Nacional del Cano, the state shipping firm that owns the supertanker, also travelled to South Africa.

The vessel's first machinist, Senior German Garcia, remained in hospital in Cape Town with burns. His wife stayed with him.



Survivor's homecoming: Señor Antonio Bustamante, first officer of the ill-fated Spanish supertanker, Castillo de Bellver, his wife at his side, arriving in Madrid.

MPs seek curbs on president

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

Curbs on the sweeping powers of South Africa's executive president, who will take office under a new constitution which will give the country its first multi-racial parliament, have been recommended by a select committee which has studied the draft Bill.

But last night Dr Drederick van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the official opposition Progressive Federal Party, said the most objectionable features of the Bill remained and it was totally unacceptable.

The all-party select committee's report on the Bill was tabled when Parliament reconvened in Cape Town yesterday after a five-week recess. It was empowered to suggest amendments but not to propose any changes to the principles of the Bill established in the second reading.

The third reading debate will begin later this week and both the Progressive Federal Party which objects primarily to the exclusion of South Africa's 22 million blacks from the reform deal, and the ultra right-wing Conservative Party have pledged to oppose it clause by clause.

The select committee has recommended that restrictions should be placed on the executive president's powers to summon or dissolve Parliament when he likes, to call joint sessions of the three chambers of Parliament for whites, coloureds (mixed race) and Asians, and to appoint ministers and deputy ministers.

People appointed ministers should take and oath of office before the Chief Justice and not before the president, the committee recommended.

But there is no certainty that the Government will accept its findings, which also call for a widening of the president's powers in deciding what should be deemed "general affairs" of all three chambers of Parliament or "own affairs" of one of them. The courts are specifically excluded from inquiring into the president's decisions in these matters.

Dr van Zyl Slabbert said last night that the proposed amendments were mainly technical and did not remove the dangers of a dictatorship, one-party domination, degradation of the courts, racial conflict, entrenched apartheid and the danger of misapprehensions.

Dr van Zyl Slabbert said the three Progressive Federal Party members of the select committee had been outvoted by the Nationalist majority when they tried to move amendments.

● PRETORIA: - Two timber mines were used in the weekend explosion at a synagogue in Hillbrow, central Johannesburg, a security spokesman said here yesterday (AFP reports).

The spokesman said that remnants of the mines, similar to types used in previous attacks in the country by the banned African National Congress, were found at the scene.

Cypriot leader breaks off Greek holiday

From Mario Mediaso Athens

President Kyriakos of Cyprus has interrupted a holiday in Greece and is returning to Nicosia after receiving a message from Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, containing his ideas for a solution of the Cyprus problem.

The message was delivered yesterday by Mr Hugo Gobbi, the Secretary-General's personal envoy, to Mr Nicos Rolandis, the Cypriot Foreign Minister. A similar message is being handed by Mr Gobbi to Mr Rafi Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader today.

Mr Kyriakos will have a meeting with Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, before flying back to Cyprus tomorrow.

Reward for defecting pilots may be £2.3m

Taipei (Reuters) - A Chinese Air Force test pilot who defected to South Korea in his MiG21 fighter could receive a record reward of \$3.3m (£2.3m) in gold if he settles in Taiwan.

Taiwan has said it would welcome the pilot, 46-year-old Sun Tien-Chai with the Foreign Ministry saying his flight showed the growing disconnect among mainland Chinese against communist rule.

Under the latest reward scale offered by Taiwan to encourage defection, officials said, a Chinese pilot bringing out a MiG21 receives nearly 920 oz of gold.

New Assembly in Seychelles

Victoria (AFP) - Voters from the three main islands of Seychelles have elected 23 new district delegates to the People's Assembly.

In the elections, 20,705 or 59.3 per cent of the electorate turned out to vote, choosing from 30 candidates, all of them members of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front, the islands' only political party.

Basques sought

Dax, France (Reuters) - Police were hunting three men they said were Basque separatists yesterday after one separatist was killed and another seriously wounded in a machine-gun attack on a police checkpoint in south-west France.

Church issues

Vancouver (Reuters) - The sixth assembly of the World Council of Churches will end tomorrow after one-day announcements on key issues like nuclear disarmament, Central America, South Africa and Christian unity.

Case of beef

Melbourne (AFP) - A Melbourne meat exporter was sentenced yesterday to four years in jail for sending horse and kangaroo meat to the United States as beef and thereby prompting American officials to ban Australian meat for three months.

First stalker

Budapest (AP) - Hungary's first known stalker was reported by the newspaper Magyar Hirlap. It said a "labeled" man, aged about 60, shocked a tour group and several residents in the main street of Debrecen, eastern Hungary.

Amnesty refused

Madrid - Amnesty for military officers imprisoned for their part in the failed coup of 1980 would be politically inappropriate, Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, said yesterday in answer to requests to free them.

On call

Washington (Reuters) - American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT) company managers worked yesterday to keep services running during a nationwide pay strike by more than 600,000 telephone employees.

Britain deported

Istanbul (AP) - Mr Trevor Simeon, a British artist sentenced to 26 months in prison for illegal fishing in Turkish territorial waters, has been deported.

Guard shoots

Paris (AFP) - Two burglars were shot dead and a third injured when a volunteer security guard opened fire after they broke into a glassware firm at Montreuil, outside Paris.

Heatwave toll

Tokyo (Reuters) - At least 64 people drowned and four are missing after Japanese thronged beaches at the weekend seeking relief from a heatwave.

Correction

Dr Louis Washkansky, the world's first recipient of a transplanted heart, was a businessman in the wholesale grocery trade, not a dentist, as stated on August 3. The operation took place and was announced on December 3, 1967.

Malta law chief to decide on indicting Briton

From Our Correspondent Valletta

Malta magistrates ruled yesterday that there were sufficient grounds for committing Anthony Price, a Welshman, aged 20, for trial before the criminal court on charges of taking part in a conspiracy to subvert the Government.

An Algerian witness said Mr Price had planned to kill the Maltese Prime Minister.

The case will now go to the Attorney-General who will decide whether there are sufficient grounds for the issuing of a bill of indictment.

Syrians shoot down Israeli 'drone'

From Robert Fisk, Bar Elias, Lebanon

While President Reagan's Middle East envoy was continuing his efforts to secure a military disengagement between Syrian and Israeli troops in the Lebanese Bekaa valley, Syrian anti-aircraft missile crews opened fire at a pilotless Israeli aircraft over the two armies' front lines.

The Syrians announced three hours later that they had destroyed an Israeli "drone", a pilotless lightweight aircraft that the Israeli Army has been using for two years to take aerial photographs above the Syrian lines.

While in itself of little military significance - "drones" have been shot down before and the Israelis had made no comment on the incident by last night - the missile was fired at a politically important moment.

Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's envoy, had left Damascus less than 24 hours earlier after failing to persuade the Syrians to reconsider a military withdrawal from Lebanon.

The missile, apparently a Sam 6 fired from the Syrian border on the Anti-Lebanon mountain range, soared at high speed down the Bekaa and exploded over the village of Ait el-Foukhar where the Syrian

Lebanese await next bombing

Beirut (Reuters) - A series of weekend car bombings that killed more than 50 people has spread deep over where the random violence might occur next.

In the north-eastern city of Baalbek, rescue work was still going on yesterday amid the rubble of a vegetable market where at least 33 people were killed and about 125 injured when a car packed with explosives went off on Sunday.

Shops and businesses were shuttered as residents responded to calls from leftist and Islamic groups for a protest strike against the slaughter.

The Lebanese press, accustomed to reporting violence daily, was unusually strong in its reaction to the Baalbek bombing. The state-run Beirut radio called it "blind carnage".

Mr Shafiq al-Wazzan, Lebanon's Muslim Prime Minister, said the latest wave of violence was an attempt to destabilize the nation.

It was the second big car bomb aimed against civilians in three days. On Friday, 19 people died when one blew up outside a mosque in the northern port of Tripoli. On Saturday, three people were killed when a body-crushed vehicle exploded in the Syrian-held mountain village of Arbanieh, east of Beirut.

After the Baalbek blast, an organization calling itself the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners, known only for its claims to have planted similar car bombs in Syrian-held and Palestinian-held areas in the past, claimed responsibility in a telephone call to a foreign news agency.

Beirut radio blamed the Baalbek bombing on "the Iranians, Syrians, Libyans and Palestinians who occupy our country." The French-language daily L'Orient-Le Jour ran a front-page headline saying: "Blind terrorism continues."

The Arabic-language daily An Nahar said of the bombing: "Black Sunday stains the city of the sun with death."

A Defence Ministry source said Mr Arens travelled to Hebron on Sunday for a three-hour talk with six of the town's leaders, including a member of the board of governors of the Hebron Islamic University, where the shootings took place.

The source said the talks were held at the request of the Palestinians. Mr Arens promised the group that every effort would be made to bring the killers to justice.

The Palestinians were also said to have asked the Defence Minister to allow the return of the former mayors of Hebron and Halhoul. They were removed from their posts and ousted from the West Bank following a 1980 attack.

Anti-bomb protesters shut works

Toulouse (AFP) - A previously unknown "anti-nuclear movement" yesterday claimed responsibility for two overnight explosions at the site where Culetto, a construction firm, is working on the Golfech nuclear power plant, in southern France.

The explosions destroyed 30 lorries and damaged 20 others, a third explosion wrecked a concrete-making plant.

The firm said the damage was so extensive that its 230 workers, at present on holiday, would be temporarily unemployed on their return.

The Golfech plant is one of three French nuclear plants which have attracted widespread protests from ecologists.

● TEHRAN: An Armenian guerrilla group waging a violent campaign against French interests in Iran, has claimed responsibility for a bomb attack on the French Embassy on Sunday night and a recent attempt to kidnap an Italian diplomat.

West Bank leaders meet Arens

Jerusalem (AFP) - Mr Moshe Arens, the Israeli Defence Minister, has for the first time met Palestinian leaders from the occupied West Bank town of Hebron, where masked gunmen two weeks ago killed three Arab students, it was reported here yesterday.

A Defence Ministry source said Mr Arens travelled to Hebron on Sunday for a three-hour talk with six of the town's leaders, including a member of the board of governors of the Hebron Islamic University, where the shootings took place.

The source said the talks were held at the request of the Palestinians. Mr Arens promised the group that every effort would be made to bring the killers to justice.

The Palestinians were also said to have asked the Defence Minister to allow the return of the former mayors of Hebron and Halhoul. They were removed from their posts and ousted from the West Bank following a 1980 attack.

Reagan library proposal splits Stanford campus

From Ivor Davis, Palo Alto, California

Summer in this college town is generally quiet as students of Stanford University take their long annual holiday. This week, however, the sleepy California afterwards have been interrupted by the sound of heated arguments.

A proposal to establish a Ronald Reagan presidential library on the Stanford campus has split the university community down the middle. Two years ago, Dr Glenn Campbell, director of the Hoover Institution for War, Revolution and Peace, a conservative think tank based at the university, invited Mr Reagan to house his Presidential papers at Stanford.

Mr Reagan, an honorary fellow of the institute, had already given papers from his eight years as governor of California, his campaign docu-

Kremlin stifles pop music explosion

From Richard Owen Moscow

Sergei is young, tousle-haired, wears a leather jacket and carries a briefcase, more like a sociology lecturer than a man who manages several pop groups in Moscow and the provinces. A year ago, Sergei was riding the crest of a wave, putting on pop concerts for wildly enthusiastic audiences of Russian youngsters. Today, he is downcast, and fears for his job as a concert hall director.

The turning point was the Party's Central Committee plenum in June, at which Mr Konstantin Chernenko made a tough speech signalling a determined Kremlin crackdown on unorthodoxy in the arts.

Mr Chernenko, who is 71, had been out of the limelight since losing the party leadership to Mr Yuri Andropov last November, and he used the ideological campaign as a vehicle for regaining influence. He called on party officials to enforce strict Marxist orthodoxy in the arts, and in language which recalled Stalinist socialist realism inveighed against "alien" Western influences.

Some musicians, artists and

writers had hoped the Kremlin would be content with tough words, but the plenum has been followed by tough action. Pop music, lambasted by Mr Chernenko, is an obvious target, since in the authorities' eyes it undermines their attempt to mould Soviet youth. A number of popular rock groups have been disbanded or barred from performing, including Time Machine and Cruise.

Russian pop music is sophisticated, with styles ranging from "heavy metal" to jazz-rock. But the Kremlin's wrath has even fallen on more innocuous, middle-of-the-road bands such as the Happy Kids (Veselye Rebyata), who used to have a zany pop show on Soviet Television.

Senior cultural officials recently wrote in the newspaper Sovetskoye Kulturne that the group had performed songs of "subliminal ideological content".

The officials - who included the Deputy Minister of Culture - warned a number of groups that they would be broken up by October 1 if they had not repented of the "lack of discipline" in their work and replaced it with "an adequately high ideological and artistic level".

Rock groups were damaging the moral and aesthetic education of working people, especially the young, the paper added.

"It's a disaster," Sergei said as we walked to a concert by one of his remaining rock groups. On the wall of a building near by a fading poster flapped in the breeze, advertising a concert earlier this year by a group called - appropriately enough - Last Chance.

"It takes years for a group to form an identity, and for different types of modern music to develop. Now they want to turn the clock back."

Some rock groups, such as Magnetic Band from Estonia, or Moscow's Dialogue, continue to function sporadically, and many of their young fans believe the current cultural chill will pass.

"Our leaders are trying to defend the fortress against us," one student said, "but it is too late, we are already inside." Moscow intellectuals agree that the process has gone too far, and that the authorities are fighting a losing battle against Western influences.

"The younger generation has

سك: امان الأصل

Split on relations with Britain

* Commercial Motor 23 July 1983

SPECTRUM

Treatment for asthma has been proved useless. There is no preventive measure for multiple sclerosis. But this second of three articles on alternative medicine shows renewed hope

New path to the roots of illness

By Ruth West and Brian Inglis

Anybody contemplating a visit to a practitioner of alternative medicine is likely to ask: "Which type of therapy is suitable for me?" And this ordinarily means, "Which type is most likely to cure me?" — to get rid of arthritis or asthma or whatever it may be.

There are therapists who practise almost exclusively as symptom-removers: osteopaths and chiropractors who by a simple twist or thrust can restore mobility; hypnotherapists who can banish, for a time, the craving for a cigarette. But most insist it is necessary to look for the cause of the lumbago or the craving for a smoke, if the problem is not to recur.

Alternative therapists preach, and many practise, holistic medicine, with its emphasis on psychological and social factors which contribute so much to the genesis of physical as well as emotional disorders.

Nevertheless most people who try an alternative therapy for the first time do so because they have either a nagging virus illness, or one of what are loosely called the degenerative disorders. It is these which have baffled medical science.

If your doctor tells you that you have a virus, what he ordinarily means is that he does not know what is the matter with you, and that if it is a virus, there's nothing he can do except prescribe painkillers, pain-killers and tranquilizers — or even antibiotics, useless though they are for a virus.

One of modern medicine's most notorious failures has been with respiratory disorders. That we can put men on the moon but cannot find a cure for the common cold has become embossed as a cliché; bronchitis has similarly eluded effective treatment. And last summer the *Lancet* bemoaned the fact that the "sacred cows" in the treatment of severe asthma have been shown to be useless and even dangerous.

"There is no preventive measure or definite treatment that will alter the course of multiple sclerosis," the *New England Journal of Medicine* sadly admitted last November. With MS, migraine and many more, even the term "treatment" has largely fallen out of use, to be replaced by "management" of the disorder — a stark admission of helplessness.

In spite of the fund-raising organizations' glowing claims, it has come to be realized that surgery and radiation, the conventional treatment of cancer, have made no perceptible difference to the

mortality rate in the commoner forms of the disease. "Breast cancer remains a common and often fatal disease, and the evidence that developments in its treatment have had a favourable effect on the duration and quality of survival remains disappointing," the *Lancet* lamented in 1981. A survey of the evidence did not suggest even that earlier diagnosis leads to an improved chance of survival.

Because it appears that orthodoxy has little or nothing to offer in the treatment of a wide range of illnesses, the media has examined the potential of alternative medicine more sympathetically, as in the recent television series about the Bristol Cancer Help Centre.

So long as it was believed that radical mastectomy and radiation worked, those who experimented with alternative therapies could be criticized as endangering lives. But that argument has collapsed, now that it is realized the benefits from conventional treatment are marginal and the adverse reactions ugly.

The attractions of alternative therapies are best illustrated by examining three disease, heart diseases, allergy and arthritis.

Heart disease

As the recent television series has emphasized, heart attacks constitute the biggest health threat of our time, killing between 400 and 500 people every day.

In the *British Medical Journal* nine months ago, Professor J R A Mitchell of Nottingham University showed just how useless, and often lethal, conventional treatment of heart disease has been. Though the article has been greeted with hostility, no one has effectively rebutted Mitchell.

"We must not allow the Nottingham nihilism to stifle our curiosity," a Papworth hospital consultant recently pleaded in the *BMJ* — the sort of criticism which is an admission that cardiologists are groping in the dark.

The treatment of heart disease is centred in hospitals, and yet most people who die of heart attacks are dead before they reach hospital — a powerful indictment of this focus lies in the evidence of controlled experiments which show that the survival rate is no higher among heart attack victims who have been hospitalized than among those who have not.

Heart disease has roots in lifestyle. Those who smoke, consume too much animal fat and salt and too little fibre, and who take too little exercise, are at most risk. Epidemiologists are becoming convinced of this, alternative therapists, naturopaths, in particular have claimed it all along.

One of the most crucial factors in causing heart disease is the personality of the patient. It is the "Type A" individual who cannot relax, and consequently drives his heart too hard, who is at risk.

According to an important experi-

ment reported earlier this year in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, "meditation, yoga and progressive relaxation" can convert "Type A's" into "Type B's", reducing their blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels, and significantly reducing the risk of a heart attack. Professor Herbert Benson of Harvard has called these methods "the relaxation response".

This discovery is significant, because another important experiment, this one in Chicago, had shown that mortality from heart attacks was actually higher among patients who had received drug treatment for hypertension, than those in the control group who had not had drugs.

Professor M. F. Oliver, president of the British Cardiac Society, has declared that it is not yet certain whether "the risk by drugs is greater than the uncorrected risk".

It is a risk which need not be taken. The work of Dr Chandra Patel and others in Britain, as well as the recent American experiment, has demonstrated that high blood pressure can be reduced effectively and safely by meditation and relaxation. Unfortunately few cardiologists have the hardihood to recommend such therapies, and they are rarely referred to in the specialist journals.

Allergy

Allergies represent one of orthodox medicine's most conspicuous failures.

Case histories

Allergy

I'm aged 46, a mother of three, and happily married. I had straightforward hay fever from childhood. But the real trouble started nearly 20 years ago when I began to get asthma, particularly sleeping into an attack at night during July and August.

The attacks got progressively worse each year, until by August 1981 I finally couldn't breathe at all, and I spent most of the summer with friends of the family in Scotland or by the sea, leaving my husband to cope with the school holidays at home. Lately, I'm having to sleep in London and commuting 45 miles to home in the country

I have been visiting a lay homeopath for 18 months now and am still seeing her regularly. Treatment instructions have been followed with meticulous care. Consultations and the treatment can be likened to peeling an onion layer by layer or piecing together a difficult jigsaw. Last summer I hardly had hay fever or asthma at all, and this summer I believe I will be totally free of the problem. Eighteen months may sound a long time, but this is not so when a condition has existed for so long and when a real cure is effected, giving such relief and well-being.

Arthritis

It was about nine years ago that the diagnosis of osteoarthritis of the spine and the theme of "we're sorry but you'll just have to make the most of what is essentially an extremely painful, degenerative disorder" was spelled out to me. I was then 43 years old with two children of school age. Psychologically it was also a terrible blow. The fear of landing up in a wheelchair... that I felt could only be constructed by saying "I'll beat it".

Now I've learned differently. Going to a healer has taught me how to live with my condition. Although the last set of X-rays

show that the deterioration is continuing, it is not as rapid as expected; and what I have is the ability to live a fairly normal life. I can go for three-mile walks, when to begin with I couldn't get up and down stairs — with almost no pain. I don't take any painkillers (except very occasionally) and I am on no anti-inflammatories.

It was a difficult step to take to go to a healer.

I saw the healer twice a week for the first three weeks, now I just go about twice a year. You can't say it's a cure, but what happened is miraculous.

ORGANIZATIONS

The British Holistic Medical Association, 23 Harley House, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HE. Holding its launching conference this autumn. The aims of the association include bringing together workers in the field of holistic medicine for mutual support.

The Centre for the Study of Alternative Therapies, 51 Bedford Place, Southampton, Hampshire, SO1 2DG. Its aim is "to be involved both in practice, teaching and academic research within the alternative therapies".

The Institute for Complementary Medicine, 21 Portland Place, London W1N 3AF. Set up to provide an umbrella organization for therapists practising some of the well-established therapies. Membership is through the Association for Complementary Medicine.

The K.L.E. Foundation, 23 Harley House, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HE. Set up to encourage and raise funds for research "in fields which at present lie outside the scientific orthodoxy".

The Natural Health Network, 1 Caxton House, Caxton Lane, Limsfield, Chert. Surrey, RH8 0TD. Set up "to further, to support and to link Natural Health Centres" of which there are about 50 in the UK.

The Research Council for Complementary Medicine, 37 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HW. Set up to encourage research into "longstanding and well-structured therapies".

The Alternative Medicine Exhibition, Thames Meadow, Walton Bridge, Shepperton, Middlesex. In its second year — a weekend event accepting exhibits only from "those individuals, companies and organizations who are involved with alternative medicine in a serious and ethical manner".

The Journal of Alternative Medicine, 30 Station Approach, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6NF. Published monthly, it is available on subscription.

Because allergic reactions commonly occur in response to innocuous substances such as pollen or cat fur, they were not taken seriously by doctors until very recently. Sufferers were often told they were simply being neurotic. No method of prevention has been found, other than avoiding the allergy "trigger", and no effective treatment, apart from what is euphemistically called "management" by symptom-crushers.

The medical profession still tries to brush allergy under the carpet. "No suitable training exists," the *Lancet* has complained in an editorial. And there are "considerable differences of opinion" about management, even among those few who are regarded as specialists.

For the past few years Dr Richard Mackarness has been campaigning to alert the profession and the public to food as a source of allergy — something which many alternative therapists, particularly naturopaths, have been claiming for years. But by calling his book *Not All in the Mind*, Mackarness has missed the point, many naturopaths say. The "trigger" is not the shellfish or the gluten alone; often it is related to some, occasion of stress, which precipitates the attack.

Arthritis

Given the ugly record of steroids and anti-inflammatory drugs — Open being only the most notorious of those which have been withdrawn from the market recently because of their side-effects — more arthritis sufferers are trying out alternative therapies, in particular healing, homeopathy, naturopathy and acupuncture. (Arthritis is also the disorder for which there is probably the largest number of quack remedies.)

Experiments in Glasgow have shown that homeopathy, treatment by very small doses of drugs that in larger doses produce the disease, can be significantly more effective than conventional treatment. Three times as many patients fared better with homeopathy; furthermore none of them dropped out owing to side-effects, whereas 40 per cent of those conventionally treated dropped out.

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Tomorrow: the NHS view

It affect them and what can be done about it... More concretely, they want to know the answers to questions like: Is it just that there are too many people? Is it, alternatively, that some or all of us are in some way misbehaving? They want to know whether it's our fate to be poisoned, suffocated, drowned or starved. They want to know whether we're growing to grow richer or poorer.

"People want to know whether we're all going to have to emigrate to some other planet in order to survive at all, and indeed whether, before we even find out the answers to these questions, we may first blow ourselves up. They want to know we, the global family, all in this together, or do our needs and interests necessarily conflict? They want to know can Marxists and capitalists agree or is it all part of the ideological struggle? They want to know whether North can work with South or whether one man's fresh air and clean water has to be another man's lost livelihood and starving children. And, finally, they want to know where are the leaders?"

'Mermaids' die

The World Wildlife Fund, predictably, waxes emotional over the death of more than 50 dolphins in the Gulf, almost certainly victims of the oil spill that has put hundreds of barrels of crude into the water daily since February. The state of war in the region has made it impossible to assess the damage, or to repair the three wells involved. "Virtually the entire known Gulf population of this rare marine mammal" has been destroyed, says WWF. "The du-



Windscale: "on trial" for radio-active discharges

plaintiffs to be between 100 and 1,000 times higher than those permitted at Europe's only other reprocessing plant, at Cap de la Hague, France.

Great debate

A "public hearing" on the state of the world's environment, brought 90 environmentalists to London's County Hall for a two-day debate last summer.

It was in observance of the bureaucratic upheaval that had culminated in

the Stockholm Conference and the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme 10 years previously, and its conclusions were predictable. But there was some splendid rhetoric reverberating around the South Bank, and recent publication of an edited account of the proceedings by Tycooly International, Dublin, brings a new opportunity to savour some of the juicier bits.

In particular, Peter Jay, acting as moderator, delivered an opening address that became an instant minor classic: "People, ordinary people, want to know what is happening, does it matter, how does

moreover... Miles Kington

Great mysteries of our time

We are often told that science will solve the great problems of our times sooner or later. What we are never told is who is going to solve the little problems of our times. In case any such authority does exist, I would like to list some of the small mysteries that most worry me.

● Why is it impossible to design an airport trolley or a supermarket trolley that goes straight?

● Why is it that we wash our faces with warm water and our teeth with cold water?

● Why does it always happen that when an aeroplane comes to a dead halt all the passengers jump to their feet even though they know they are going to remain standing motionless for the next 10 minutes, instead of getting back into the seats they have just vacated?

● Why are jazz performances always prolonged by the desire of every player in the group to play his last note even though they know the drummer will always win at the end?

● Why do dog-owners cry out: "He won't hurt you" just as their animal leaps on you and plants his teeth in the nearest available limb?

● Why do we never see signposts on the road reading "Slough and the East" or "Hatfield and the South"?

● What do engine drivers do during these long, unexplained stops in the middle of the country?

● What is the secret of design that enables jets to dribble tea down their spouts onto the table instead of into the cup?

● What do firemen on engines do now there are no fires?

● Why is a man with an overdraft said to be borrowing from the bank whereas if he has a healthy account it never occurs to the bank that they are borrowing from him?

● Why is the most commonly asked question in Britain ("How are you?") one that nobody ever wants the answer to?

● Why are the objects attached to hotel keys now so big and heavy that it is impossible to get the key to the room to alone lose it?

● Why do men wear ties?

● Why are things more expensive in duty-free shops than in real life?

● Why is white wine called white wine?

● Why are pornographic films labelled "adult"?

● Why is *The Sun* called a newspaper?

● Why is anything ever called the best thing since sliced bread?

● Why does perforating a sheet of paper with a line of holes make that paper harder to tear, especially along the line of holes?

● Why has Arsenal Football Club changed its name to Hithachi?

● Why do the British always go to look for the sun when there is most sun at home?

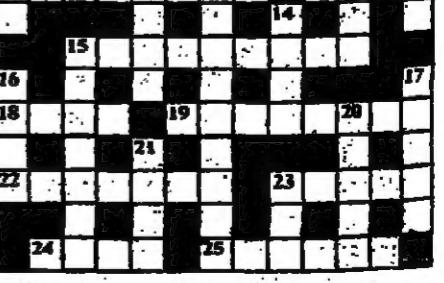
● Why do butchers and fishmongers always close early and bicycle shops and chemists always stay open late?

● Why do British Rail's guards announce the destination of trains just after they have started, at a time when the information is at its least useful to anyone?

● Why do British Rail porters at main-line stations always end up on trolleys marked "For passengers use only"?

● Why do lists like this always end up criticizing British Rail even though the writer is a keen railway fan?

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 121)



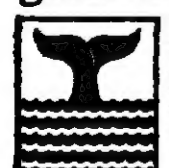
ACROSS
1 Bedtime bell (6)
5 Medicine (2,3)
8 Boisterous (5)
9 Love-in-a-mist (7)
11 Quick nourishment (4,4)
13 Brick pace (4)
15 Separable (8)
18 Wicked (4)
19 Scholar (8)
22 Patella (7)
23 Singing group (5)
24 Biting insect (4)
25 Uncommonness (6)

DOWN
2 Subdivisions (5)
3 Sour (3)
4 Store browser (11)
6 Deep breath (4)
7 Showy display (7)
10 Cutting blade (5)
12 Dash (4)
14 Carry out orders (4)
16 Little stream (4)
17 Acute (5)
20 Approximately (5)
21 Highlander (4)
23 Mongrel (3)

SOLUTION TO No 120
ACROSS: 1. Buzzer; 2. pack; 3. Officer; 16. Ram; 17. Lard; 18. Bank; 19. Lard; 20. Fat; 21. Moth; 22. Nettle; 23. Bell; 24. Bell; 25. Gum; 26. Altar; 29. Avicenne; 30. Grandmother.

DOWN: 2. Lifer; 3. Sea; 4. Earl; 5. Part; 6. Cumbria; 7. Lollipop man; 8. Stake holder; 12. Ice; 14. Die; 15. Mummy; 19. Litter; 20. Mob; 24. Eagle; 25. Grain; 26. Malt; 27. Gait.

Thinking on a grand scale



Testimony at the recent trial of John Aspinall on charges arising from the deaths of two keepers at Howletts Zoo demonstrated all too clearly how conservationist zeal and pathetic fallacy can combine to generate extreme visionary fervour. Not even the most eminent scientist is immune, for some reason, marine biologists seem especially vulnerable.

The syndrome is far from new, but even so those who attended the normally soporific annual meeting of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society last year were startled when Dr Sidney Holt, addressing himself to the question of "Who really threatens whales and seals?" launched into a semi-mythical reverie on the unity of life.

His paper, reprinted in a recent issue of the society's journal *Oryx*, charted the history of whaling agreements and anti-whaling campaigns through most of this century before speculating that marine science might "reveal in totally unexpected ways how we evolved, where we now stand in the living universe, and even where we might be going". The hypothesis that man might have descended from a marine ancestor had been mooted for a long time "but to put together a scenario for human aquatic evolution we need to know much more about secondary mammalian adaptation to aquatic habitats. That

is where the benign study of cetaceans and seals comes in".

To the astonishment of many, Dr Holt then started talking about elephants. Perhaps they, too, had an aquatic origin. "Elephants, hornbills and toothed cetaceans all have big brains, long memories, extended parental care of offspring and conscious control of complex vocalizations. Baleen whales perhaps also have those qualities. Is the evolution of intelligent communication and cultural transmission on this planet tightly linked with apprenticeships in the sea...?"

"Perhaps even if we no longer threaten sperm whales with extinction, we are already well on the way to destroying their culture as surely as the European invaders destroyed the cultures of the Maya and the Aztec, without entirely exterminating the peoples. Perhaps it is UNESCO, rather than FAO or UNEP which, in the United Nations family, should now be taking the leading interest in cetaceans..."

Sea trials

Not that passion in environmental matters is unique to biologists. The organizers of a Russell-style International Water Tribunal, to be held in Rotterdam in October, are as driven, in their deliberate way, as the scientist who professes to see the universe in a grain of ambergris, or Heaven in a sand dollar. British Nuclear Fuels is one of perhaps a score of companies to be "tried" by the tribunal for polluting the world's oceans and inland waterways. The "charges" against BNFL are likely to centre around radioactive discharges from Windscale into the North and Irish seas, alleged by the

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: CONSERVATION



plaintiffs to be between 100 and 1,000 times higher than those permitted at Europe's only other reprocessing plant, at Cap de la Hague, France.

Great debate

A "public hearing" on the state of the world's environment, brought 90 environmentalists to London's County Hall for a two-day debate last summer.

It was in observance of the bureaucratic upheaval that had culminated in

the Stockholm Conference and the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme 10 years previously, and its conclusions were predictable. But there was some splendid rhetoric reverberating around the South Bank, and recent publication of an edited account of the proceedings by Tycooly International, Dublin, brings a new opportunity to savour some of the juicier bits.

In particular, Peter Jay, acting as moderator, delivered an opening address that became an instant minor classic: "People, ordinary people, want to know what is happening, does it matter, how does

it affect them and what can be done about it... More concretely, they want to know the answers to questions like: Is it just that there are too many people? Is it, alternatively, that some or all of us are in some way misbehaving? They want to know whether it's our fate to be poisoned, suffocated, drowned or starved. They want to know whether we're growing to grow richer or poorer.

"People want to know whether we're all going to have to emigrate to some other planet in order to survive at all, and indeed whether, before we even find out the answers to these questions, we may first blow ourselves up. They want to know we, the global family, all in this together, or do our needs and interests necessarily conflict? They want to know can Marxists and capitalists agree or is it all part of the ideological struggle? They want to know whether North can work with South or whether one man's fresh air and clean water has to be another man's lost livelihood and starving children. And, finally, they want to know where are the leaders?"

'Mermaids' die

The World Wildlife Fund, predictably, waxes emotional over the death of more than 50 dolphins in the Gulf, almost certainly victims of the oil spill that has put hundreds of barrels of crude into the water daily since February. The state of war in the region has made it impossible to assess the damage, or to repair the three wells involved. "Virtually the entire known Gulf population of this rare marine mammal" has been destroyed, says WWF. "The du-

it affect them and what can be done about it... More concretely, they want to know the answers to questions like: Is it just that there are too many people? Is it, alternatively, that some or all of us are in some way misbehaving? They want to know whether it's our fate to be poisoned, suffocated, drowned or starved. They want to know whether we're growing to grow richer or poorer.

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سكزامن الأصل

FASHION

The much discussed Theatre Museum hopes to display some of the stunning costumes from past productions. Today, guest writer Georgina Howell looks at the impact made by British costume designers in the modern medium of cinema and TV film, and at how much time and effort is involved.

Pretty as a picture

It is 13 years since MGM's worldly goods were dispersed in a \$10m auction, and Judy Garland's ruby slippers from *The Wizard of Oz* went for \$15,000, still the highest sum of money paid anywhere for part of a production costume.

The 1970s, which opened on that note, continued as a decade of reassessment and marked a rising interest in all categories of fashion. Clothes at the Victoria & Albert Museum had been elevated from glass cases to a costume court in 1961, and the staff noticed that at Cecil Beaton's 1971 *Anthology of Fashion* exhibition, the public were at last eager to see Audrey Hepburn's Ascot dress from *My Fair Lady* as they were to see Fortuny's and Schiaparelli's real life innovations. Then in 1976 came the biggest of all costume exhibitions, Diana Vreeland's *Romantic and Glamorous Hollywood Design* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and a record 800,000 visitors were able to enjoy the truth of Irving Thalberg's remark that you can get away with anything if you make it historical.

The observation is peculiarly American. British costume design is more firmly grounded, deriving from a unique tradition of history and literature via the spectacular "historical" effects of the nineteenth-century theatre. We probably have more first rate costume designers than any other country, and there is more work for them than there was 10 years ago - more American productions here in pursuit of a good rate of exchange, the appropriate architecture and untrammelled vistas of countryside, more television channels, more commercials. They are doing well on the British film front, too, because of the need to appeal to the American market, which means a shift in focus from the insular and current (and virtually costume-less) to the nostalgic and universal, like *Chariots of Fire* and *Gandhi*.

The gulf between designing for television and movies began to close with the coming of colour to television, BBC 2 in 1964 and BBC 1 four years later. "Costumes" split into two departments - wardrobe and make up - and both rapidly took on staff. "When I went to the Beeb in 1964 it was just a backroom servicing corner", remembers Judy Moorcroft, now an independent costume designer (*The Europeans*, *Quarter*), now working on the costumes for David Lean's *Passage to India*. "There was a hierarchy whereby the set designers were a creative part of the crew but the costume designer knew his place and kept quiet. Now the dialogue

between set and costume designer is well established and everyone knows that if you don't listen to the costume designer at production meetings you could lose a lot of money."

The credit for the first step in television is usually given to John Bloomfield, an ex-law student and ex-carpenter from Birmingham, who was chosen to design the clothes for the first big colour production *The Six Wives of Henry VIII*, which won two major costume awards. "It is the designer's job to help the audience to work things out", says John Bloomfield. "I set out to remind them who was who by dressing the Seymours in green, the Howards in red, and when the king was married to one or the other he'd be in green-gold or red-gold."

Today the technical problems that used to separate television from film designers are reduced to a minimum.

"You have more control in a movie, because there is just one camera", says Judy Moorcroft. "Otherwise the differences are obvious ones. Even on a big television screen the figure won't be more than a foot high, so it's a close-up medium. Hats are important, shoes less so. For a film you must watch every detail. A spot of make up on a man's collar can make you squirm a lot when you see it at the Odeon Leicester Square."

Television does the small-roomed dramas to perfection - Jane Austen, Dickens, Trollope - but the distinctions are blurring as more films are being made as co-productions between television and cinema to spread the costs, as happened recently with Channel 4 and the British Film Institute's *Draughtman's Contract*. When you consider that the costumes for the three episode epic *The Far Pavilions* (a Goldcrest production simultaneously filmed for Channel 4, where it can be seen in January) account for 2% per cent of the budget at £350,000, the need to defray the cost becomes brutally clear. Most of the good independent costume designers today are happy to work for either medium and acknowledge that television series such as *Upstairs Downstairs* and *The Pallisers* have educated the public to recognize period accuracy when they see it.

More than half of Britain's top 15 costume designers began their careers at BBC Television, which has consistently produced quality. The costume department today is run kindly but firmly in true Auntie fashion by Maggie McPherson, a 36-year-old ex-personnel officer, who explained the scale of the department. "Costume is just one part of a design and scenic services group", she told me. "With a permanent staff of 300, I'm the first head of department who has been of interest in management and has not been a practising designer." Costume make up, she said, have stayed an immensely long and laborious business while other departments have become computerized.

"The jobs we do range from supplying an adviser to go shopping with a Playaway presenter at one end of the scale to costuming a vast project such as the coming *Black House* which will start a year's production in the autumn. For that we have allocated Michael Burdell, who did *The Borgias*. One of our most delicate tasks is to decide which of our designers shall be given the chance to make his name with a major project."

"The stresses of a big production can be overwhelming, and the toll it takes on a designer can be frightening", she says. "We make it a point to transfer the designer from a big production to something small and comparatively limiting for his next job. Joyce Mortlock, for instance, went straight from *Nancy Astor to Terry and June*."

Like the distinguished design-



RAYMOND HUGHES

Above: at Barmans & Nathans He designed the costumes for the Goldcrest/Channel 4 film *The Far Pavilions*, to be seen on television in January. Amy Irving as Princess Anjali is pictured left. "It seems as though I have been working on 'Pavilions' all my life. To begin with there were 200 English cavalry uniforms to be made. Then I went to India. For six months I lived in the Raj Mahal Palace in Jaipur, with 48 Indians sewing the old ankans and phirans on the balcony. In India in 1872 there were 625 states, each with its strictly individual mode of dress."



LIZ WALLER

Right, designed the remarkable costumes for television's *Elizabeth R*.

Pictured above are two of her costumes for Sam Neill and Celia Gregory in *Riley - Ace of Spies* a twelve part series for Thames TV, to be seen from September 5.

"Designing for the theatre is leisurely and civilized compared to television. There are photocalls, dress calls, and a dress rehearsal. For television you'll probably find that the actor doesn't get a chance to wear everything together - wigs, shoes, costume and make-up - until the very day of filming. As a designer your great value is not simply delivering the goods on time. You rush to your maker with four drawings of suits and mounds of fabric, shouting 'It's 1910!' and tear off to get the shoes and shirts."

"When we did *Elizabeth R*, I launched into a tremendous amount of research. I was lucky because just at that moment Sir Roy Strong organized the Elizabethan icon exhibition and brought out a book full of detailed information, which was godsend. I usually begin by collecting pictures of people of the period I am after - all classes cover all professions."



SUE BLANE

Left, working on designs for the English National Opera's *The Gambler*. She designed the costumes for the BFI/Channel 4 film *The Draughtman's Contract*. "All costumes begin with the drawing. For 'Contract' we pushed the designs to extremes to match the formality of house and garden, but it was not as expensive as it looks. We filmed in a heatwave. The actresses suffered from the tightly laced corsets, but the men were almost more uncomfortable. Their jackets alone were made of 15 metres of calico."



ner Julia Trevelyan Oman. Maggie McPherson worries about the lack of knowledgeable cutters and small part staff so crucial to the whole operation. "Good dressers are rare, people who are proud to be of assistance. Ex-artists and dancers are the best. We are looking for a mother hen, masculine or feminine, over 40, who won't panic when an artist shouts at them."

To be a costume designer, it's not enough to like the clothes. You have got to be an avid reader, fascinated by history, etiquette, architecture and characterization. Even that is not enough, said Anthony Powell, six times award winner (*Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, *Death on the Nile*). He was a student and then a lecturer at the Central School. "We had between six and seven hundred applicants for 12 places in the Theatre Design School. As a designer you're a handmaiden of the thoughts and opinions of others."

The best designers are practical, realistic people who begin by asking "What can I do in the ten days I have got?" and go on from there. But every designer has a story of a time when they managed the impossible. Shir-

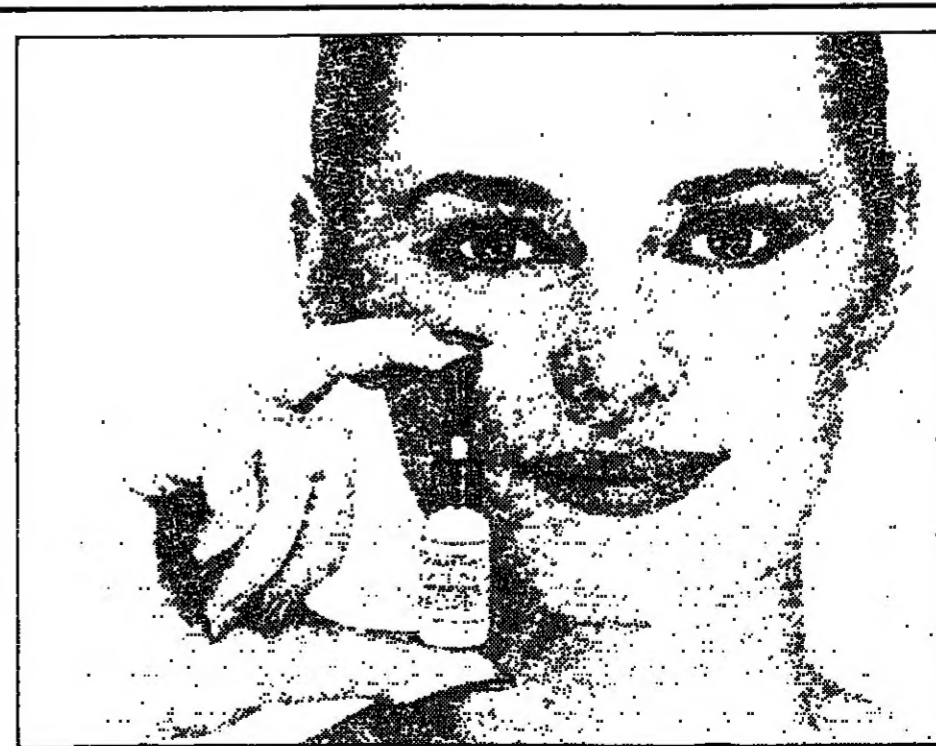
ley Russell (*Women in Love*, *Agatha, Reds*) has cut out shirts and sewn them together on mountain tops, with the crew waiting to film. Jane Robinson (*Jennie Churchill*, *Brideshead*) costumed the Jerzy Skolimowski film *Moonlighting* in two hours, from Berman's and Lawrence Corner.

The bulk of the costumes come very often from Barmans (196 years old) or Morris Angel (140 years old), two much respected firms which make to order, hire and hold in embargo until the production is released, when you can rent them for fancy dress at about £20 a time. A comparative newcomer, John Bright of the 18 years old Cospop is an ex-designer himself and has a devoted following.

A clever designer can make a costume which will almost force the actor into character, and for this reason most actors are more than happy to meet the designer halfway. On the other hand, some costumes inhibit certain emotions - it is extremely difficult to look furious in Cavalier curls and lace. Martin Baugh, head of costume at Yorkshire TV explained that there are certain key points in a costume that will help an actor

to stand and move in a way characteristic of a period. "It is a question of tensions. For a man it is the height of the collar, back of the jacket and shoes. The collar also gives him his age - if it is too big he'll look older. For women it is what they wear on their heads, the corsets and petticoats, and the current erogenous zone."

A historical costume always looks more convincing to an audience when it incorporates familiar clues to the period. As Anne Hollander points out in *Seeing Through Clothes*, Adrian's Marie Antoinette costumes for Thalberg's 1938 film, thoroughly 1930s in feeling, look authentic because everyone is wearing a wig. Similarly, Elizabeth Waller's costume for the 1973 television series *Elizabeth R* with Glenda Jackson, absolutely correct in every detail, look authentic only because everyone is wearing a ruff. Sometimes, much to the designer's surprise, he finds that the most characteristic part of a costume is incorrect. When he was researching for *I Remember Nelson* Stuart Currell, head of wardrobe at Central, went to the Maritime Museum, the Victory and to Naples and found that Nelson never did wear an eyepatch. "He wasn't completely blind in that eye, which looked quite normal."



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THE TIMES DIARY

Wells documented

The third volume of H. G. Wells's *Experiments in Autobiography*, which has been gathering dust for almost half a century, will finally appear a year from now. Faber has paid £20,000 for what its editorial director, Robert McCrum, says are "very frank, vivid and candid memoirs". The volume could not have been published sooner since it deals in intimate detail with Wells's sexual relationships, in particular with his love affair with Dame Rebecca West, who died last March. McCrum says the manuscript reveals many other sexual liaisons and some names will have to be withheld from the book "to spare the feelings of the living".

Long arms

Britain has imposed an arms embargo on Israel since the end of June 1982. That does not prevent British firms from fishing for future orders. Menachem Eini, the retired general who heads the Lavi project to develop the Israeli air force's plane of the future, says: "We have had a proposal from Marconi which we are seriously considering." In the first instance the bid is for \$7m worth of computerized television and optical equipment to go into the cockpits of the prototype planes, the first of which are due to fly by early in 1986. The value of orders to follow might be substantially greater since Israel is expected to build 300 Lavi eventually. A spokesman for the GEC subsidiary Marconi Avionics said: "We decline to comment. We do not comment on someone else's statements."

Bank role

The Theatre Royal, Stratford East, as encouraged by the Government, is looking for a sponsor to get in on the action. Nothing unusual in that, you might think, only the action they have in mind is a legal one against the Arts Council for alleged breach of contract by making a mid-year one per cent reduction in the theatre's grant. The council pleads that it was obliged to breach faith by the Government's decree that it must cut all its spending by one per cent this year. In Stratford's case the reduction wipes out the one piece of private sponsorship the theatre had managed to get in the year, and forces the cancellation of an Alan Plater play. Letters begging support for a court case, which will be important for all Arts Council clients, are going out now, but really any litigious tycoon would do.

BARRY FANTONI



"Frankly, I've always had doubts about their claims on Page Three."

Lost lament

The son of Bela Bartok is offering a reward of £500 for information leading to the return of two poems of desolation written by his father on his New York deathbed in 1945. Peter Bartok, a recording engineer living in Florida, is about to inherit his father's archives but is deeply distressed by the loss of the poems. "I saw them when I took an inventory in my father's room after his death," he says. "There were six or eight poems in an envelope on the desk. One began: 'Lament in a foreign land', the other: 'A black carriage passes on a dark meadow'. I don't know if he wrote any music for them, but they reflected his terrible loneliness in exile and, perhaps, his sense of impending death. Even though in that room went into a trunk, and no one has heard of the poems since."

John Hawkins received a letter from the Grand Hotel Osborne in Knokke-le-Zoute, Belgium: "...A member of the staff is warning children when parents are out, it is a very kind and devoted person. I hope to be honored with your reservation and remains. Yours sincerely."

Dead slow

Sir Peter Parker, no less, can cap my note yesterday about the InterCity guard advising passengers that if they got their heads knocked off they would have to collect them themselves. The chairman's tale is of a guard embarrassed at a delay caused by a suicide throwing himself under the train. He eventually announced: "British Rail regret the delay. There has been a fertility on the line."

As an even-handed antidote to the funny food listed on foreign menus, Bob Erdlandson points out that not far away from exotic Soho it is possible to enjoy Steamed Dick with Vegetables at the Jubilee Dragon in Gerrard Place, while in Fenchurch Lane P. C. Walker tackled Vel Gordon Blue. Still, that was much the same dish as Alan Burns found at the Bee Flin in Ajaccio listed as Scallop of Veal Blue String, which ties it up nicely.

PHS

Twopence for their thoughts

by Lord Harris of Greenwich



have our own constituency paper and a council paper. We're also starting up our own alternative paper to the *Islington Gazette*, as a cooperative.

But Mrs Veness and her colleagues faced a serious difficulty. When officials of the borough council met representatives of the cooperative in April, it became clear that the £100,000 they needed for grants and loans towards the acquisition of property and the cost of refurbishment could not be provided (since then the total cost has risen to about £200,000). The borough solicitor told the council's employment grants and financial assistance sub-committee that it had no statutory power to help the cooperative.

However, he added that this problem was about to be rectified. A small Government Bill—designed to amend a section of the Local Government Act, 1972—the Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill, then before Parliament, would confer (quite unintentionally) just the powers the council required.

Section 137 is the provision under which, in defined circumstances, a council can make up to a 2p rate available for grants for purposes which are of general benefit to its community. The new Bill widened councils' powers, under this section, so as to allow them to provide financial assistance towards the acquisition of land and the carrying out of building work; and this was precisely what the Islington cooperative needed.

To the chagrin of Islington council, progress on this Bill was slowed down by Mr George Cunningham, then the SDP member for Islington South, supported by two Conservative MPs on the standing committee. Mr Cunningham explained how Islington proposed to misuse the proposed power, and Sir George Young, the environment department junior minister, undertook to consider whether the Bill could be amended to prevent such action being taken. When Mrs Thatcher announced the date of the general election, the Government attempted to force the

unamended Bill through in the dying days of the last Parliament, but it was frustrated by Mr Cunningham.

Soon after the election, the Department of the Environment introduced the unamended Bill. This time there was no George Cunningham in the House of Commons; by the narrowest of margins, he had failed to be re-elected. The Bill secured a speedy passage, and arrived in the House of Lords just 10 days before the summer recess. It was rushed into law within that period. But this time, the Government was compelled to answer the question: was it really prepared to allow Islington, and like-minded councils, to spend public money in this fashion?

Islington was denounced in robust terms by Lord Belville, the local government minister. I could not quarrel with his rhetoric, but why were councils to be given the power? And why was the Government determined to prevent this Bill from being amended so that such conduct would be unlawful?

Well, the Bill was "technical" and there was an urgent need to amend the law. The urgency was caused by the environment department's anxiety to appease the local government associations, which wanted the law changed for entirely sound reasons. Because the Government's relations with the associations were under strain as a result of impending rate-capping proposals, the department wanted to press ahead with the Bill with utmost speed. It was determined to prevent amendments in the Lords that would hold up royal assent until the autumn and thus, it was feared, anger the local authority associations.

So, after all Lord Belville's sound and fury directed at left-wing councils, he voted his majority in the Lords to vote down an amendment that would have prevented councils from using public money in this manner.

Many cross-bench peers voted with the Alliance against the Government and so, to their credit, did five Labour peers. Two former Conservative ministers, Lord Boyd-Carpenter and Lord Rawlinson, expressed their serious concern (Lord Rawlinson describing Islington's behaviour as "an absolute public scandal") and declined to support the Government.

And so, a Government pledged by Mrs Thatcher to take a firm stand against left-wing extremism gave statutory authority for councils to give loans and grants to left-wing local newspapers. Mrs Thatcher, and her senior colleagues, have almost certainly been told nothing of this; indeed it is inconceivable that a department would have sealed the assent of a cabinet committee for such a Bill, if it had known its full implications.

But as it is, a small newspaper in Islington will have to fight for its life against a publicly subsidized giveaway newspaper. And what will happen in Islington could be repeated in Lambeth, Hackney, Southwark and the other authorities dominated by the left. It is an episode that reflects little credit on the Department of the Environment, or on Parliament.

The author, a former Home Office minister, is a member of the SDP.

Roger Scruton

Going white after red-blooded conflict

Of all the conflicts that have shaken the civilized world, that between claret and burgundy has probably been the most beneficial. It is at once easily resolved and endlessly renewable. It begins in pleasure, and ceases in sleep, passing meanwhile through a glorious interlude of beligerent intoxication. Language, literature, history—all are brought to bear on this vital dispute, which has absorbed the after-dinner energies of countless politicians and businessmen, so stalling for a few precious hours the dangerous projects of production and reform.

Men need conflict. The essential requirement of civilization is to provide matter for conflicts which, while instructive and agreeable to those who are engaged in them, can do no conceivable damage to those who are not. The present conflict is one of the most educationally valuable that I know. What could better illustrate the need for a classical education than the rival claims of Château Ausone and Médoc, the one named from the estate of a Roman poet, the other from the temple of a Roman god? What could stir the English speaker's sense of history more effectively than Château Talbot, named from the great Earl of Shrewsbury, Haut-Brion, which might be called O'Brien; or the sheer enigma of names like Boyd-Contant and Lynch-Bages? What could more poignantly remind us of the voice of poetry, than the great names of Burgundy—Vougeot, Chambertin, Meursault, Chambolle-Musigny, Les Amoureuses (a wine that generally lives up to the promise of its name)?

Beneficial though this conflict has been in the annals of our history, however, it is also to be regretted. For it is only the red wines of Bordeaux and Burgundy that can be fruitfully compared. The white wines are eclipsed by enthusiasts which largely disregard them. As a result one of the highest achievements of western culture has been shrouded in ignorance. I am referring to white burgundy, without whose assistance it would be impossible for a philosopher to compress his thoughts into the measure laid down by the editor of *The Times*.

Naturally, anyone who encounters Le Montrachet will know that he is in the presence of the greatest white wine that mere mortals could make—at least he will know this if he is fortunate enough to taste vintage like those of 1959 and 1961. Most amateurs would also admit that there are white wines made in the Côte d'Or—Corton-Charlemagne, Bâtard-Montrachet, Meursault-Perrières—which, while not strictly comparable to Le Montrachet, deserve to be drunk with the same bellicose gratitude for the human condition as inspires and refreshes the conflict between claret and burgundy. Two important facts, however, are not generally understood.

The first is that white burgundies are incomparably better value than reds, the rich white wines of Auxey-Duresses and Santenay, or the

minor domages of Meursault, can sometimes be obtained for as little as £6 a bottle. Should you be seeking for red wine, then, at that price you must certainly choose claret.

The second and more important fact, more important, that is, for those concerned not merely with the survival but with the spread of civilization—is that truly great white burgundies exist, which almost anyone can afford. These wines are grown not in the Côte d'Or, but to the north of it in Chablis, and to the south of it in the Côte Chalonnaise. The essential characteristics of good white burgundy are three: a flavour as full and rich as is compatible with disciplined dryness; a bouquet that is neither sharp nor flowery, but rounded and heady, with a lingering suggestion of mouldy vegetation; and a dry, nutty after-taste, which returns after many hours, enriched with associations like the memory of a passionate kiss. These three qualities are rarely combined in a single experience, and it is arguable that only the Chardonnay grape can really unite them. It is the use of this grape, rather than the strict criteria of geography, that lead me to describe Chablis as a white burgundy.

The lesser wines of Chablis are of course well known for their crisp invigorating attack. But it is not widely appreciated that, in remarkable years like 1978, the wines of Chablis fill out, acquiring the three dimensions of taste which I have mentioned, and becoming equal at their best to the very greatest products of the Côte d'Or. Already those designated *premier cru* manage to combine the pebbly foretaste of Chablis with some of the lingering after-taste of the most southern vineyards. But for a little extra money (the sum may be no more than £7 a bottle) the *grand cru*—with four peasant names like Bougros—can be obtained. Such wines equal the best products of the Côte d'Or, and in a good year may even surpass them. Unfortunately the widespread ignorance of their merit, which causes them to be so usefully underpriced, makes their manufacture far less profitable than justice requires. Hence the future of these great wines is increasingly precarious. I therefore urge the readers of *The Times* to lend full-throated support to this vital component of our culture.

While the English drinking public has begun to appreciate the white wines of the Maconnais, and to realize that St Vrain and Macon-Genévrières are the equals of Pouilly-Fuissé, it has yet to discover the treasures that lie to the north of that region, in the Côte Chalonnaise. True, *Montrachet* is now a familiar name. But how often does one encounter a white Rully, a white Buxy, or a white Meursault, whose Elos du Petit Clou can easily be mistaken for the finest Meursault? The greatest of these wines sell for less than cheap Champagne, and provide, by contrast, a grandeur and fullness of experience which may redeem even the vile dog days of a hot London summer.

Edward Mortimer

Why the Alliance must save Labour

Eighteen months ago, when the SDP-Liberal Alliance was taking votes equally from the two other parties, its vocation seemed to be to establish itself as a centre party. But after the general election in which it pulled the Labour Party down almost equal to it in votes cast, while leaving the Tory vote largely intact, many people wrote and talked as if its vocation were to destroy and replace Labour. The collapse of the Labour vote at Penrith has further encouraged such talk, even though the Tories' lost most votes in that by-election.

Yet as a member of the SDP, I question whether such an objective is either attainable or desirable. It is not desirable because it would leave an embittered ramp of trade unionists and intellectuals, probably 10 or 15 per cent of the electorate, on the margin of British politics. It is not attainable because it would take longer than the electorate is prepared to wait.

Some SDP leaders, at least in private, are now not even aspiring to form a government in 1988 but just to establish the Alliance as "Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition". That implies a third consecutive term of Tory, presumably Thatcherite, rule. If you think the electorate will settle for that, you might as well join the Conservative Party now.

Why, in any case, should the Alliance aspire to replace the Labour Party? Such thinking is a product of the electoral system which the Alliance purports to be determined to break; the system which produced the two-party system and is kept alive in order to perpetuate it. If one rejects the electoral system, as the Alliance claims to, then one must be prepared to accept a multi-party system with the probability of coalition government at least part of the time.

In a multi-party system the SDP should have a place, whether merged with the Liberals or not, in the left-centre of the political spectrum. The problem is how to get there from here, given that the two parties which have done well out of the existing system will not change it to do us a favour. At the moment, the Conservative Party is riding high, while the Labour Party appears to be on the ropes.

That makes it seem obvious that the Alliance's best chance is for the Labour decline to continue. But it is not. The Labour vote is so heavily concentrated in certain parts of the country that it can contract quite a bit further without losing large numbers of seats.

Most of the seats which the

Alliance has a reasonable chance of winning in the next election are at present Tory-held; and the best chance of winning them lies in simultaneously winning over disillusioned Tory voters and persuading people who voted Labour this time to switch to the Alliance—the famous tactical vote advocated by the *New Statesman* to get the Tories out. In other words, a pooling of Labour and Alliance support.

Clearly a lot of that happened in the general election and at Penrith. But it is hardly reason to expect it to go much further in the next election if the Alliance appears to be interested only in displacing Labour as Her Majesty's Opposition. What the Alliance should be offering, to make voting for it seem worthwhile, is the prospect of a centre-left coalition to replace the Tories; a government that would set about reversing what is left of the welfare state and rebuilding what has been destroyed.

If the Alliance tries to pretend that it can do this without the Labour Party, it will put itself in the position which social democrats in Italy have suffered from ever since the war, and in France until 1981, where they faced the choice between remaining for ever in opposition, or governing in coalition with the right.

The Labour Party in this election got almost exactly the same share of the poll as the communists got in Italy on June 26. Even if it were reduced to the size of the French Communist Party (20 per cent until 1978, 15 per cent in 1981), it would still be enough to deny the Alliance a majority, especially under PR which the Alliance is pledged to introduce. Francois Mitterrand solved this problem in France by forcing the communists to support him on his own terms. Their leaders did not want to, but they dared not take responsibility before their own voters for keeping the right in power. At some time between now and 1988 the Alliance will have to do the same to the Labour Party. After all, it was only through the Lib-Lab pact that Labour itself first became a significant parliamentary force in 1906. The Alliance now needs to repeat that operation in reverse, by offering Labour an electoral pact based on an agreed minimum programme, one item of which must be PR, so that never again can a Tory leader claim a landslide mandate on the basis of a minority vote.

If Labour's leaders refuse this, it will be for them to explain to their own supporters why they should not vote Alliance and throw Maggie out.

China: doing it by the book again

By creating a personality cult of Deng Xiaoping, China's most celebrated enemy of personality cults, Peking has handed Moscow's propagandists a made-to-measure opportunity for anti-Chinese derision.

For several years the Dengists have revelled the Mao-worship which marked the two decades before the chairman's death in late 1976. They reserved special contempt for the Little Red Book of Mao quotations which is condemned nowadays for crippling national development for 20 years by preventing original thought.

Now the party is printing 12,200,000 copies of the *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping*, China's paramount political figure although he no longer holds the very highest offices of state. The *Selected Works* consists of 43 speeches, 39 of them never before published, given between 1975 and 1982.

The party, bureaucracy, and the armed forces have been ordered to memorize them, and China's top officials vie with each other to praise their newest hero in terms not heard since the death of Mao.

Mao was the Great Helmsman, the Great Teacher, and the Red Red Sun in Our Hearts. Deng has become the Statesman, the Initiator, and the Designer.

Western China watchers tended to dismiss the new personality cult as no more than the resumption of a quaint Chinese custom. It is undoubtedly a measure of Deng's desperation with the progress of his pragmatic reforms that he has had to adopt methods which he once so reviled and give China's chief enemy such ammunition.

The Russians can probably scarcely credit their good luck.

Medicine is a conjunct art, not a science. Medieval jocosity: "If you want to be cured of I don't know what, take this herb of I don't know what name, apply it I don't know where, and you will be cured I don't know when." Only in their nomenclature and jargon are doctors bewilderingly scientific, partly in order to blind laymen with their science. Language and medicine seem to go together. Doctors are leopards and wordsmiths. Some of my most prolific and entertaining correspondents about new words and meanings are quacks.

Medical jargon tends to be correctly derived from the ancient Greeks, since doctors tend to be scholars, if not scientists. Proper sequipedalian jaw-cracker the word may be, as "adiadochokinesis". But anybody with a bit of Greek can work out that it means an inability to perform movements one after another, an inability to arrest one

"First August Radio," which purports to be a clandestine Chinese army station manned by disgruntled Maoists, is really a Soviet confection operating from Siberia. It has pinpointed the paradox in the campaign to build the four-foot ten-inch Deng into an ideological giant.

"Most strange," the Russian black propagandists broadcast recently, "are the claims in several articles in the *Selected Works* that personality cults brought near disaster to the whole party and the people." The broadcast recalled, too, Deng's scorn for the cult created by Mao's self-proclaimed successor, Hua Guofeng, and ended by quoting Marx on historical mistakes which appear first as tragedy and later as farce.

These are well-aimed blows. Deng has indeed spoken severely of Mao's vainglorious last 20 years (although he claims to reverse Mao thought) and of Hua Guofeng's "water-ratism," which held that anything the late chairman ever said or did was gospel.

Now, "First August Radio" notes triumphantly, "someone in the central organs has created a 'new whateverism' whatever utterances are made by a certain person must be complied with."

Unfortunately for the Dengists, this is only too true. As the party braces itself for the upcoming three-year "consolidation" or purge, designed to winnow from its 40m-strong ranks all undesirables, Deng's *Selected Works* will be its bible.

Last week, the Central Committee proclaimed: "The study of the *Selected Works* of Xiaoping is an important ideological preparation for an overall party consolidation." It warned leading cadres to examine their pasts, even as far back as 30 years, and by "assiduously studying



Deng's photograph and signature from his *Selected Works*

The *Selected Works* be at one with the Party Central Committee."

At 79, Deng remains a tough little fellow. Like many short men he fancies himself two feet taller. "He treats me like a dead ancestor," Mao once complained of the man who served him for 12 years as party general secretary and backed him in the worst excesses of the late 1950s: the communes and the Great Leap Forward.

He is readying his forces to fight future battles for authority, perhaps after he is gone. Several million

victims of past Maoist campaigns, some of them more than 25 years ago (and overseen by party general secretary Deng) have been rehabilitated in the past four months alone, and 470,000 party members, once disgraced, have been permitted to re-enroll. Deng is encouraging China's 800m peasants to "get rich" through private endeavour.

Academy-trained army officers are assuming commands once held by devotees of the People's War who, in Deng's dismissive phrase, still believe "all a soldier needs to fight victoriously is a bag of grain, a rifle, a grenade, and the correct attitude." One of Deng's top commanders has just admitted that for the next two decades China will not be able to defeat a properly equipped adversary.

Since the time of Confucius over 2,500 years ago, Chinese have sought wisdom from texts. Foreigners used to marvel when China's table tennis champions and brain surgeons paused to consult Mao's Little Red Book about their next moves. Devotion to that once-banned volume has been declared to be mindless "book-worship," and the 12m or so copies of Deng's *Selected Works* appear a mere trickle compared to the 200m copy avalanche of the last volume of Mao's works.

But for those awaiting the party's inquisition, who have been awaiting in some cases to reflect on their last 30 years, Deng's words are holy writ. Otherwise, why would 2,500,000 copies have been snapped up on the first day of sale?

Jonathan Mirsky

The *Selected Works of DXP (in Chinese)* can be obtained from Guanghua Books, 7-9 Newport Place, W.C.2.

Elbow room for doctors

New words for old/Philip Howard

movement and change to another, viz. clumsiness: the sort of problem that President Jerry Ford was said to have in swinging his arms and chewing gum simultaneously.

The trouble is that few prospective doctors study Latin and Greek; and so the etymology of their mystery is becoming literally Greek to them. Accordingly, to help the poor bewildered quacks, the admirable Bristol Classical press has published *A Pocket Etymology of Medical Terms*, which introduces the Greek and Latin roots of medical terminology. It is a useful little book from *abdomen* to *xerostomia* (dryness of the mouth). Another instance of the close

connexion between medicine and language is the vast and entertaining selection of medical eponyms.

To elucidate these puzzling matters for poor young medical students, Pitman Books have just published *Medical Eponyms* by John Lourie. I often lie awake at night wondering what is the Pelger-Huet Anomaly, and who were they. The anomaly turns out to be a dominant condition of hypersegmented leucocyte nuclei, and the hypersegmented chaps turn out to be the name of a Dutch physician. I feel better.

We all know what Dover's Powder is, don't we? It is a sedative mixture of 10 per cent opium, 10 per cent ipecacuanha, and 80 per cent

lactose. Thomas Dover was the Bristol GP, 1660-1742, who treated Thomas Sydenham for smallpox with a diet of oil of vitriol and 12 pints of beer a day. Many of his patients were rich slave-traders, but he treated the poor free. In 1708 he forsook medicine to lead the most successful pirate expedition in British history, plundering the Spanish cities of Ecuador and Chile, returned to England in 1711 with a vast booty, and resumed medical practice.

Examiner, showing candidate a urinary catheter with an elbow-like bend in it: "This is a Coude catheter; tell me, who was Coude?"

Over-confident candidate, who has not read the book: "Oh, he was a nineteenth-century French urologist, sir." Examiner, holding up a urinary catheter with two elbow-like bends in it: "And who was Coude?"

The French for an elbow is *coudé*. Coude means "bent like an elbow".



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SECOND IN COMMAND

Recognizing Mrs Thatcher as a politician of quite exceptional stamina and will-power, the nation will be disposed to accept the hyperbole of her statement, on leaving hospital, that she is 101 per cent fit. Her added grace-note, "I am feeling fine, but then I always am" did, however, sound a little like tempting Providence. Mrs Thatcher, if less liable than much of humanity to the risk of incapacity through illness or mishap, has no immunity; even Achilles had his heel. Happily, the Prime Minister has recovered speedily from an eye-operation which has apparently been a complete success, but the episode is a reminder that Prime Ministers do have an obligation to make satisfactory provision for their role to be fulfilled when they are temporarily out of action. In other words, they need a deputy.

In Lord Whitelaw, Mrs Thatcher has a deputy who is hand-made, so to speak, for the job. He is of proven loyalty to her personally, and he is a man of great political experience and maturity. He would have been the Conservative Party's choice for leader, and eventually Prime Minister, if Mrs Thatcher had not been elected to preside over something like a revolution in the party's social and economic thinking.

Yet there is now a little more than that to be said about the deputy to the Prime Minister in the present government. A Conservative deputy's position is, of course, quite different from that of his Labour opposite number. The Labour deputy leader is elected, formerly by Labour MPs, now by the monstrous parliamentary and extra-parliamentary apparatus which elects the leader. If Labour reaches office, there is no doubt whom the *de facto* deputy Prime

Minister must be (though the office remains unknown to the constitution of the country) whether the Prime Minister likes it or not. In what used to pass as normal times for the Labour Party, this created no problems. But as the ideological divide has widened in the Labour Party, its deputy leadership has taken on a special significance. Mr Denis Healey was chosen precisely because he represented the pole of Labour politics opposite to Mr Foot, in the vain hope that this balance of influence would help them pull the party together.

Those who now feel that it matters for Mr Healey rather than Mr Michael Meacher to be deputy to Mr Kinnock make the same assumption. But as Mr Healey's experience has shown, the deputy's influence depends far more on the calibre of the individual than on the formal power of the office, and what matters for the national point of view is his ability to take charge of a government in the Prime Minister's absence.

Yet though there is little distinction of function between a Labour and a Tory deputy, each comes to his position by a different route. The Conservative deputy is appointed by the Prime Minister. He is invariably a figure of great influence in the party, who is respected on all sides. He is someone who could be leader; yet his position gives him no assurance of succeeding; rather the reverse.

There is therefore no problem about who would manage the government in Mrs Thatcher's absence, and certainly none that would be solved by the nonsensical idea, canvassed from the Tory backbenches last week, that Mrs Thatcher needed her own Minister of State to take day to day charge of her office in her absence; who would take instruc-

tions from him? Yet Mrs Thatcher's temporary incapacity has illuminated a potential problem and it arises from Lord Whitelaw's translation to the Lords. If Mrs Thatcher were ever incapacitated for any length of time, would it be feasible for the Acting Prime Minister (for that is what the deputy would become) to be in the Lords?

In the recess and in calm times it would not matter, but in the event of a crisis, international or financial, it might well. Somebody would have to speak, with as much Prime Ministerial weight as possible, in the Commons, and it is questionable whether the departmental Cabinet Minister, whether Foreign Secretary or Chancellor, could do so while there was an acting Prime Minister in another place.

In the Commons, the most obvious candidate is Sir Geoffrey Howe in terms of seniority and experience. It is understandable that Mrs Thatcher should not want to make a change. For one thing, she is loyal to Lord Whitelaw; for another he is the most comfortable kind of deputy to have. Moreover, any Prime Minister likes to keep her, or his, options open and not to seem, by appointing a deputy, to influence the succession. But that is not how it would work in practice as recent history has shown. It would pre-empt nothing if she decided that her deputy ought to be in the Commons. The present situation is a convenient one, both because it allows time for the talent with the right weight to make itself felt in the Commons, and also because nobody in the meantime is breathing down Mrs Thatcher's neck. Even so, her recent mishap has given Mrs Thatcher something that she would be well advised to think about, in a leisurely way, during the coming months.

FACTS COME FIRST

Last autumn's leak of the Think Tank study of long-term trends in public expenditure is remembered, if it all, outside the inner circle of policy-makers and commentators for one thing; the suggestion that the Thatcher administration wished to kill the National Health Service. Such a proposal was not made in the Think Tank's paper to the Cabinet. The tank's submission was a discussion document on what would need to be cut, on various assumptions of economic growth ranging from the optimistic to the pessimistic, if spending was to be contained within certain ceilings. But the canard stuck. The episode was an object lesson in how not to conduct a serious debate on an issue - how are public services to be funded in a low or nil-growth society with an aging population without punitive, self-defeating increases in taxation - which affects the prospects and well-being of every citizen.

The Government drew the wrong lesson from the Think Tank affair. Ministers seemed to assume that the leak had made rational discourse of the issue impossible for the immediate future. There was a tightening of Whitehall security and discussion was postponed until after the general election. It has now revived. The Prime Minister has let it be known that the long-term financing of the welfare state is under review. What should the Government do as papers begin to circulate in

Whitehall to prevent a reprise of last autumn's unnecessary, energy-sapping furore?

Ministers could cast their minds back beyond September 1982 to 1942 and 1978. Both years provide examples of how to conduct a sensible debate on social policy. The popular version of the Beveridge report on social insurance was a bestseller. The debate it stimulated was excellent as at least one member of the present Cabinet will remember. Lord Hailsham, as Mr Quintin Hogg, MP, was very active in pressing the cause of reform on the Tory party. Beveridge wrote in a way which caught the imagination of the public. He identified "five giants" on the road to reconstruction and put them in capitals - Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor and Idleness. Whitehall does not produce White Papers like that anymore.

In 1978, the Callaghan administration completed a review of supplementary benefit by publishing a Green Paper supported by 40 background documents of statistics and analysis. Discussion was limited by the standards of Beveridge in 1942-43; but it was of high quality. That should be the model for the Thatcher review of Beveridge's brainchild which must be conducted now - thought, research, publication of background information, debate, action.

The Cabinet must agree a set of clear objectives, then com-

mission research and the preparation of options. Who should undertake it? Under Britain's private system of government, Whitehall departments have a near monopoly of much detailed data. But that need not altogether exclude outsiders with a fresh or at least a different perspective. Beveridge was an outsider. He chaired a small group of insiders. The Think Tank died last month, but there are other bodies of research. The Government could commission studies or seek second opinions from the Policy Studies Institute or the refuted Economic and Social Research Council under Professor Sir Douglas Hague its new chairman.

High quality research leading to openness, a Green Paper containing models of the welfare state and its finances in the 1990s built on a variety of economic assumptions, buttressed by background papers and a set of choices for reform will not guarantee rational discussion or a happy outcome. British politics is too polarized and the bulk of the British press too trivial for that (there lies another example of decline). *Picture Post* excelled itself with accurate and genuinely popular coverage of Beveridge. Yet coming clean with the public at least offers policy-makers a fighting chance, since they must win the argument. Open government may mean more argument, but it can also mean better government.

FULL EMPLOYMENT: FALSE EMPLOYMENT

President Andropov has summoned all his men in the Party Central Committee, the Council of Ministers and the official trade union organization to attempt yet again the daunting task of making Ivan a better worker. The good thing about the Soviet system is that everyone has a job; the bad thing for the state is that no-one feels obliged to work very hard. There is certainly some truth in the joke: "They pretend to pay us, so we pretend to work". If sacked, the bad worker simply moves to another factory, often helped on his way by a glowing reference to speed the transfer.

The policy statements, which on Sunday filled most of the front page of Soviet newspapers, are devoted to "strengthening socialist labour discipline" by rewarding the diligent and penalizing the shirkers. The Soviet authorities themselves admit that labour productivity in the USSR is only forty per cent of the US level - largely because of inefficient organization and poor mechanization. Most citizens, says the government resolution, work honestly and conscientiously, but "absenteeism, lateness, coming and drunkenness" are much too common. The "loafers, truants and drifters" enjoy the same wages and benefits as conscientious workers. Managers

guilty of excessive toleration for these abuses will be compelled to tighten discipline by laws expected to be passed by the Supreme Soviet in December. Even after working hours it will be difficult to escape the campaign. The state-controlled radio, television and cinema networks are instructed to propagandize more widely positive experience in the labour collectives. Because housing conditions in the USSR are generally poor, the incentive of offering good workers better accommodation - such as a move from communal hostel to individual family flat - will be considerable, providing the major problems of bribery and graft in housing distribution can be overcome.

In some respects Soviet workers are well protected by labour laws, but this may result in the new enactments losing their teeth. A persistent absentee will lose a day's holiday for every day missed, but will still receive a minimum two weeks' leave however many days he misses. If he is more than three hours late, he loses a whole day's holiday - so why bother appearing at all? And a drunkard demoted for three months to the lowest job in the factory may feel that since nothing worse can happen, he might as well seek the conso-

lation of vodka. If a third of his pay has been docked, to pay for his drink he will be tempted to indulge in the widespread practice of privatizing state property by stealing from his workplace. As with President Andropov's earlier efforts to invigorate the economy, the new decrees will be received with mixed feelings. Russians know that an improvement in labour discipline is necessary, but they want an exception to be made in their own case; the family comes before the state. Since shops and communal services are inadequate, the temptation to slip away from work to find scarce consumer goods will remain strong.

Such instructions from the top without fundamental reforms are usually ineffective. Last week frustrated economists leaked to Western journalists a secret study drafted for discussion by the Soviet leadership; it argues that the whole over-centralized system needs changing and condemns the vast bureaucracy, jealous of its privileges, for opposing the necessary reforms. It seems probable that these latest efforts to impose stricter labour discipline will merely inflate the already excessive number of inspectors - another unproductive sector of the economy.

Looking askance at rate-capping plan

From Professor S. A. Walkland

Sir, In the current argument about rate-capping by central Government and its effects on local democracy and accountability, I am on the side of the local authorities. This is not to deny that there is a problem. But there is a marked lack of discussion of what is at the real root of the matter, which is the lack of any real political accountability of a very large number of British local authorities.

Neither your otherwise good leading article of August 2 nor the Layfield committee examined this problem. This lack of accountability is directly traceable to the electoral system in force for local elections.

It is not that the issues of local spending do not get extensively discussed in local government election campaigns, but that conclusions reached after wide democratic argument, and which receive majority electoral support, more often than not cannot affect in any way the outcome of the election, which is in many areas a foregone conclusion. My own city of Sheffield - on the Government's list - is one of the best illustrations of the truth of this argument.

The way forward out of an apparent impasse is to change the local government electoral system to one of PR, but this is not a solution likely to come from the present Government, nor from the Labour Party. Both have too much to lose.

Yours faithfully,
S. A. WALKLAND,
University of Sheffield,
Department of Political Theory and Institutions,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire,
August 2.

From the Leader of Southwark Borough Council

Sir, Your leader writer on August 2 finds it difficult to feel much sympathy for the councillors of Southwark. Despite that I welcome your recognition that the Government White Paper plans are ridiculous.

MPs and Civil Service computers are never going to be able to make sensible decisions about local needs. There can be no replacement for the locally elected representative who is accountable to local people. The very idea of a councillor embodies the notion of someone who balances what the community wants and needs against what it can afford to pay. If we get that judgment wrong we do not get re-elected.

It is indicative of how out of touch the Government is that its proposals are condemned on constitutional grounds by every local authority association, irrespective of political control, and by academics and most newspapers. Perhaps a little sympathy for Southwark councillors is due. We have already experienced the heavy hand of Whitehall. We have had our planning powers over a major part of our borough removed and our land seized to be given to a non-elected development corporation. We have seen our efforts to consult the public about their wishes for the

form of development of parts of the borough - a statutory requirement - turned into a farce by ministers making decisions, such as the development of Hay's Wharf, without any consultation.

Our major problem is housing. We manage more than 62,500 properties and have 9,000 families waiting to get a council house and another 9,000 wanting a transfer. We have £9,500,000 in rent arrears as tenants struggle to balance their own budgets. We have thousands of empty properties we wish to bring into use. We have hundreds of squatted properties.

It is central Government that already restricts our investment in coping with these problems and prevents badly needed housebuilding and renovation. It was also decisions by central Government to encourage high-rise building which led to many of the problems we now have.

Nobody in their right mind believes any more that central Government knows best. That is what you have to believe to support the proposals of the White Paper on rates.

Yours etc,
ALAN R DAVIS, Leader,
Southwark Borough Council,
Town Hall,
Peckham Road, SE5,
August 3.

From Councillor C. A. Williams

Sir, I cannot share the view expressed in your leader (August 2) that it will be difficult to administer the Government's proposed "selective scheme" for limiting the rates.

The Government seems to have learnt from its past mistakes and has this time come up with proposals that are, in essence, quite simple.

While the calculation of GRE - the Government's assessment of what each council ought to be spending - is complex, the councils which will be subject to rate limitation will be those whose spending patterns will be clearly excessive on not only this, but also other criteria.

I do not share your fear that MPs might be overwhelmed by the task of satisfying themselves that the Secretary of State would be right to limit the rate rises in Lambeth. The assessment of need is a matter of judgment and something on which Conservatives and Labour members will have different views.

What will be clear and unarguable, if this council continues its present policy, is that expenditure and staffing levels are high compared with those of many other authorities.

What concerns me about the Government's proposals is that nothing will be done to limit expenditure in the 1984-85 financial year. My fear is that councils that sit in a penalized area will have one "final fling" and the ratepayers will have to foot the bill.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. WILLIAMS,
Conservative finance spokesman,
London Borough of Lambeth,
Members' Room,
Town Hall,
Brixton Hill SW2,
August 3.

In-court conciliation

From Mr John M. Westcott

Sir, The Interdepartmental Committee on Conciliation, whose report has just been published, concludes that out-of-court conciliation schemes do not save money overall and therefore should not receive financial support from the Government. The Committee proposes that conciliation is best provided by in-court systems.

I write on behalf of a number of Bristol solicitors practicing in family law who have regularly referred clients to the Bristol Courts Family Conciliation Service - the first of the out-of-court conciliation agencies to be set up - during the four years of its existence.

If any of us had been asked by the Committee - and none of us was - we could have referred to many cases, particularly in custody or access disputes, where lengthy and expensive court proceedings have

been avoided with the help of BCFC.

The Committee maintains that conciliation must be justified by reaching settlements, overlooking the fact (nowhere mentioned in the report) that in many cases, where there has been conciliation but no final settlement reached, issues have nevertheless been narrowed or identified and the subsequent task of the court simplified, thus saving costs.

The disadvantage of in-court conciliation is that it is only available to parties once divorce proceedings have begun. Out-of-court conciliation agencies offer the benefit of help to parties who are still reluctant to take that step. In fact, one in six of those who consulted BCFC last year became reconciled - another fact not mentioned in the report.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. WESTCOTT,
14 Orchard Street, Bristol,
July 19.

Student unions

From Mr Paul M. Jowett

Sir, With all respect to Roger Scruton (feature, August 2), whose articles I find refreshingly radical despite their self-avowedly right-wing nature, does he have to liken every activity of the left in this country to the machinations of the pro-war German Nazis during their all-out contest for power?

Surely even the readers of the *Salisbury Review* expect a broader sweep of historical examples in literature aimed at bolstering and consolidating their views.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL M. JOWETT,
United Oxford & Cambridge University Club,
71 Pall Mall SW1.

Slaves in England

From Mr John Gillard Watson

Sir, It was in 1772, in the Somerset case, that Granville Sharp obtained the dictum from Mansfield that any slave, so soon as he sets foot in English territory, becomes free. This must necessarily apply to the wretched persons described in recent correspondence in your columns. Why, then, do these people not exercise their freedom?

One can hardly doubt that for a century or more after the Somerset case anyone enslaved by his countrymen who walked out would indeed have been free, with the full protection of our laws. But today, what reliance can such slaves have that a craven Foreign Office will not forcibly return them to their country?

It is worth remembering that the 13th Amendment to the American

Yellow butterflies

From Mrs Alison Ross

Sir, It is now obvious that there has been and is still being a major invasion of immigrant Clouded Yellow butterflies into this country this year. There are so many of them that they add to butterfly-watchers' delight among our resident butterflies and sometimes appear as plentiful as the Large Whites, Brimstones and even the ubiquitous Small Tortoiseshells.

I usually see a few Clouded Yellows every summer, but it was surprising to see one flying over the village street as early as June 6 after a weekend of heavy thunderstorms and I and many friends have seen one or more every sunny day since.

They stop and sup from many flowers as they fly inland from the coast - thistles, marjoram, scabious and red valerian as well as clovers and lucerne.

Yours &c,
ALISON ROSS,
Honeyuckle Cottage,
Amberley,
Arundel,
West Sussex,
August 4.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Other ways of eyeing countryside

From Mr C. P. Righton

Sir, Mr Hart has managed to confuse himself as to what he is driving at (feature, August 2). He calls it a hard criticism of farmers that their incomes rose in the last two years and then goes on to say that the return on capital is so low that only the very rich can afford to farm! Are we supposed to be making too much money or too little?

Perhaps someone who was not so intent on pursuing the politics of envy would have pointed out that farm incomes were halved in real terms in the previous five years. The net result is that real farm income in 1982 was still 20 per cent below the average level of the 1970s.

The value of land is really immaterial in this context. It tends to rise or fall in the longer term to reflect its earning capacity and it is a fact of history that the return of capital in agriculture has always been low. Farmers are perfectly well aware that they could make more money by selling up and investing the proceeds in gilts; it is fortunate for consumers and for the countryside that farmers are not solely concerned with profit.

It is no fault of farmers that they are unable to buy British combine harvesters and, so far as tractors are concerned, we exported £350m worth more than we imported last year.

To imply that farmers are being paid too much to produce food is to ignore the facts. The truth is that the real cost of food has been falling for years. There has, of course, been inflation but the rise in the prices received by farmers, averaging out at 7.1 per cent per annum between 1977 and 1982, compares very favourably with the 9.5 per cent for food, the 12.7 per cent for non-food items and the 14.3 per cent for average earnings. The continuing improvements in agricultural efficiency have meant that consumers now enjoy a greater variety of better food at less expense than ever before.

If it is accepted that this development is economically beneficial, then the valid question which Mr Hart could have asked is whether the results have justified the necessary changes in the countryside. The emotional comparison of English fields with a "vast prairie" is hard to comment on objectively. We all regret the passing of the familiar. The simple fact is, however, that our countryside has continuously changed throughout the centuries to meet changing circumstances.

Neolithic enclosures? Roman villas? Open fields? Enclosures? Which is the "natural" form for the British countryside? Are we seriously expected to farm economically in the 20th century with the methods of the 18th?

Yours faithfully,
C. P. RIGHTON, Deputy President,
The National Farmers' Union,
Agriculture House,
Knightsbridge, SW1.

From Mrs Susan Ranson

Sir, Perhaps Mr Hart (feature, August 2) would like to visit me. I

live on what is now a small farm. We have hedges, and we still got snowed up. Our birdscarer has a time switch which turns it off at night. My garden is destroyed by the nettles, twitch, goose grass, convulvulus, speedwell and brambles which invade it from the surrounding fields.

We have poppies; I am not sure we ever had marigolds or does he mean corn marigold? The land has always been unsuitable for orchids. We have owls, kestrels, partridges and hares. Our machines are small and most of them are old. The mice come into the house in the winter, and I have even found shrew footprints in a covered butter dish. We need to fence the fox from the ducks and chickens and we have rabbits.

We have planted more trees than Dutch elm disease has killed and a straw chopper makes straw burning a much less messy affair. We have small fields and haven't bought a new tractor for years. We have two ponds, one of which is very wild. I regret we cannot claim the farm is a wilderness, but our income fell by 45 per cent last year. Members of this family belong to the National Trust, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Council for the Protection of Rural England, the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, and the local Natural History Society.

Perhaps when he visits Mr Hart will be able to convince me that all novelists and political advisers do not produce inaccurate and unwanted verbiage which has to be disposed of at public expense and that, as they are far fewer in number than readers of the popular press and the electorate, public money should no longer be used to subsidise this selfish minority.

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN RANSON,
Gordons Lodge,
Ashton,
Northampton,
August 2.

Night time 'nuisance'

From Sir George Heygate

Sir, Mr Maslen, of the NFU, made a fair point (July 26) in his letter in response to Mr Bertram's complaints (July 22). So far as harvesting is concerned, my sympathy is with the farmers.

But what does Mr Maslen say to the householder who has to suffer an explosive bird-scarer going off in the adjoining field every three or four minutes, from and before dawn to an hour after dusk, for weeks (or even months) on end?

Such an experience is by no means uncommon in this part of England. That sort of disturbance can hardly be said to last for "a very few hours per year" or to be "brief".

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE HEYGATE,
Willow Grange,
Wissit,
Halesworth,
Suffolk,
July 28.

Rupert Brooke's grave

From Major Douglas MacRae-Brown

Sir, As you mentioned Rupert Brooke's birthday among today's anniversaries (August 3) I thought your readers might be interested to know that a marble plaque, engraved with his fifth war sonnet, was placed at the foot of his grave last month.

Brooke was buried in an olive grove in a most inaccessible part of the island of Skyros. A beautiful marble monument was conveyed there in 1920 by Stanley Casson, the archaeologist, who took three weeks to install it. The only inscription it bears, apart from the poet's name, is in Greek. This was originally

composed by a Greek interpreter, who wrote it in pencil on a wooden cross just before the internment on April 23, 1915.

It is worth noting, too, that the physical task of embedding the plaque with professional skill against the plinth on which the monument rests was carried out voluntarily by the Mayor of Skyros, Mr Fioulis, and two leading citizens of the island, one of whom was a local master mason. I was privileged to be there.

Yours faithfully,
D. MACRAE-BROWN,
Meads School of English for Foreign Students
2 Old Orchard Road,
Eastbourne,
August 3.

Soviet 'moles'

From Mr Malcolm Muggeridge

Sir, I was greatly interested by the letter in your issue of July 25 from Professor Roderick Floud about accusations that his father, the late Bernard Floud, MP, had been a Soviet agent in the vein of Blunt, Burgess, Maclean, Philby, etc. etc. Bernard Floud and I became friends in 1940 at Mythen House, when we were both privates in what was then called Field Security and became the Intelligence Corps. There was, I know, some sort of hold-up in his getting a commission, but in due course, as I was given to understand, full clearance came from MI5 and he appeared in a particularly smart officer's uniform.

He and I had many arguments, and certainly he had strong leftist views to which he gave ardent expression. Yet I never detected, and looking back cannot recall, any intimation in our talks that he had any special fancy for the USSR under Stalin.

He was an attractive and gifted person; I liked him and enjoyed his company, and when our military service paths separated we corresponded and occasionally met. I remember meeting his charming wife-to-be. Undoubtedly, there was some sort of conflict going on inside him, and this may well have concerned divided loyalties.

In any case, I heartily agree with his son that the time has come for releasing for publication and historical presentation all the data concerning espionage in the earlier decades of this century, especially in the thirties and forties. Further speculation can be unjust and hurtful and anyway is becoming unbearably tedious.

Yours etc,
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE,
Park Cottage,
Robertsbridge,
East Sussex,
July 28.

Innings closed

From Mr Robert Brooke

Sir, I was interested in the correspondence (July 21) prompted by the New Zealand cricket team's scoring 544 against Somerset at Taunton without the aid of an individual century. This was beaten when Essex scored 560-9 against Sussex at Leyton in 1933, with a highest individual innings of 93, and at Taunton in 1930, when Somerset totalled 545-9 against Hampshire with a highest score of 88.

However the accolade must go to Nottinghamshire. Against Derbyshire at Derby in August, 1899, six of their batsmen exceeded the half-century, but the best individual contribution to their all-out total of 581 was William Gunn's 90.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT BROOKE, Editor,
The Cricket Statistician,
4 Milton Road,
Bentley Heath,
Solihull, West Midlands.

Pointing the way

From Mr David H. R. Yorke

Sir, As part of the Government's spending cuts have secret restrictions been placed on the supplies of paint for punctuation marks by signwriters?

A journey last week yielded three signs whose meaning would have been made clearer (or indeed reversed) by some punctuation after the initial warning or exhortation.

Near the entrance to Ragley Hall is the delightful "Lands drive slowly". By the towpath of the South Oxford canal lurks the more sinister "Sheep dogs will be shot". In my neighbouring village of Lindfield a traffic sign proclaims "Give way markings erased" - should I stop or not?

Yours in confusion (comma),
DAVID YORKE,
Holford Manor,
North Chailey, Sussex,
August 2.

THE ARTS

Television

Curious character

On paper it must have looked promising: on the one hand a glamorous cosmopolitan from international showbiz (sic, one feels), a former child star with all the neuroses, presumably, and deprivations inevitable in the pursuit of such careers; on the other, one of the professional, loquacious Celts so beloved of the electronic media which have long confused garrulousness with eloquence, the profit with the profound.

In the event Penda Clark's confrontation with Dr Anthony Clare in *Motives* (BBC 2) slipped down as blandly and wholesomely as junk. The interrogator seemed baffled by the show-business characteristic of having more skins than Peer Gynt's onion, especially when Miss Clark, affable and self-possessed, resolutely refused him any glimpse of inner Angst. Was she curious about other people's lives? "Yes, I am," yes," she averred doubtfully, producing no evidence. Did she feel guilty? "Yes, there is quite a lot of guilt, now you come to mention it." "You've found exactly the right word," she reassured Dr Clare soothingly, and for a moment the roles of analyst and subject were reversed.

With obvious relief Dr Clare learnt that her father had wanted a boy. Her early life, he

hopefully suggested, "must have been turbulent confusion." But despite a Pinfold-like interlude of hearing voices in her late teens, the star maintained that, compared with Sammy Davis Jr, say, or Barbra Streisand, she was "fairly normal".

The comparison was a clue to the programme's failure. Even Miss Clark, looking as if she could scarcely have lived the forty years she has spent in the profession, hardly claims to be in the same league; but then that might explain her normality. Otherwise, psychological truisms abounded. Adolescence was "not a good time", her husband curiously recalled her father. Despite residence in several countries she considered herself to be at home "on stage", with an audience, lights and preferably a microphone. Ruthlessly Dr Clare resorted to frontal, if unoriginal, assault. "You epitomize a great dilemma", he insisted, "working and family".

The modesty of her reply was revealing. "I don't think I've got very much talent", is the unattractive self-assessment of Sally Clark, from Ewell, made good. Fans will be pleased at her balanced togetherness; but it makes for dull television.

Martin Hoyle

Galleries

Gardens of grace and charm

Masquerade

Museum of London

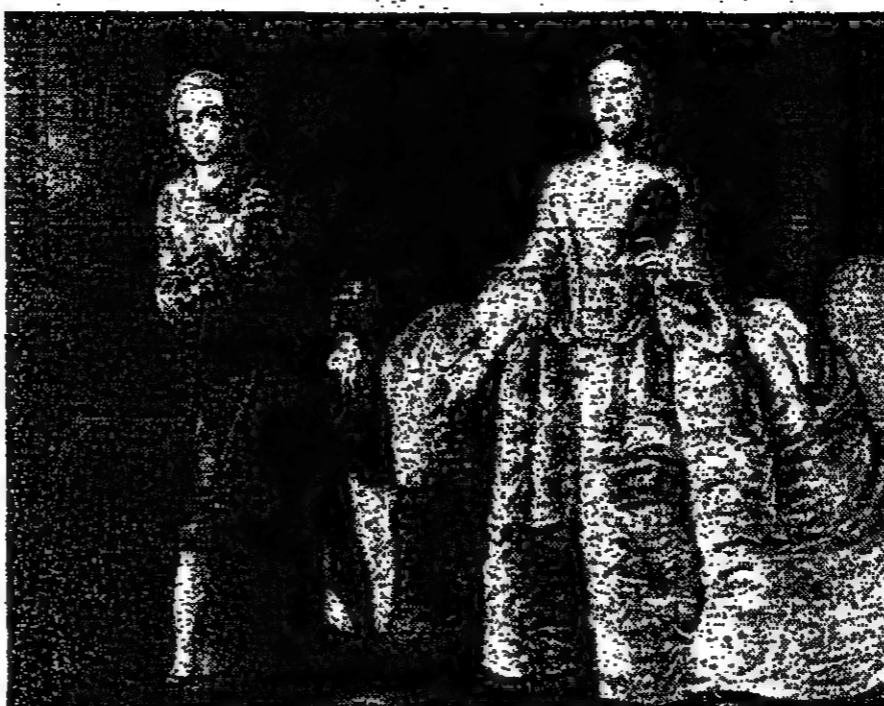
The Japanese Print Since 1900

British Museum

Fortunately, perhaps, the forlorn cry of "But is it Art?" is seldom these days heard in our land. Of course, lofty theoretical considerations of the name and nature of art have their place, but as a hurdle in the way of response to the thing before one they do tend to waste rather a lot of time. Or did, for, after conceptual and minimal art, who is going to worry too much about whether a pot or a photograph or a popular print can qualify? Indeed, we even have a further let-out clause proposed: if the individual works exhibited are of dubious status, it is quite possible that the exhibition itself may be a work of art, and its organizer the true artist.

I doubt if the Masquerade show which has finally opened at the Museum of London (after a two-week hiccup with the air-conditioning) and runs until October 2 would make such pretentious claims for itself. And yet it is a perfect example of that type of show, somewhere between an art exhibition and a history lesson, for which high claims have recently been made. What it attempts to do is to recreate for us the look and the sound and the atmosphere of that peculiarly eighteenth-century obsession, the masked ball, and all that went to cater for it. In England, and particularly in London, the most familiar by-product was the pleasure garden. Initially haunts of the grand (visiting royalty, we learn, were permitted to keep their masks on after everyone else had been required to take them off, which must have made for a rather obtrusive form of anonymity), they later went down in the world and became, as *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* makes clear, haunts of rogues and vagabonds before they were finally swept away. Who now remembers gay Cremorne, the poet plaintively inquired, and indeed today the names of Vauxhall and Ranelagh have very different associations: even the Festival of Britain's brave attempt at Battersea went the way of its more illustrious predecessors.

But records and reminders of many sorts survive, and they are assembled here



Meeting at the ball: Francis Hayman's *David Garrick and Hannah Pritchard in 'The Suspicious Husband'*

in a show of singular grace and charm. Though there are arguably no paintings of first rank, we can explore a number of still attractive byways of eighteenth-century portraiture, and family enough we are frequently reminded of the earlier paintings in the *Art of Cricket* show: if family groups and individual portraits (especially of teenage boys) were liable to be decorated with the accoutrements of cricket, to the extent that it became almost a sub-genre, here we have another, parallel sub-genre, the masquerade portrait or portrait group, with the young and glamorous at least clutching masks, and maybe wearing a whole elaborate fancy dress. Even the painters - Hayman, Zoffany, Benjamin West, or at least attrib - are often the same. We can admire the most popular historical styles assumed in paintings like Zoffany's portrait of *John, Lord Mordaunt* in Vandyke costume or Thomas Hudson's portrait of *Mary Anton, Duchess of Ancaster* dressed after a Rubens. We can even see some original costumes, listen to the music they would have heard, see what nasty things Hogarth and Rowlandson had to say about such diversions, and still sensibly wish we were there.

There is unlikely to be much question on the status of the works in *The Japanese Print Since 1900* at the British Museum until September 11 - even though it starts with the bloodthirsty jingoism of popular journalistic prints recording Japanese victories in the wars with China and Russia at the turn of the century. Even these, to be fair, show a remarkable ability, which seems to be specifically Japanese, of seeing even the most unlikely subjects in terms of elegant (and possibly heartless)

aesthetic effect. Thereafter the work divides down the middle, between those artists who cling determinedly to the traditional forms, as though art alone could keep the West and the modern world at bay, and those who with equal enthusiasm embraced the West and its ways, and sought, even while continuing to employ the familiar techniques of the colour woodcut, to revolutionize the Japanese way of representing reality.

As one might expect, the most interesting prints are often those by artists who contrive somehow to straddle the two cultures. A print like Kampo Yoshikawa's *Early Morning Mist at Sanjo Ohashi* (1924), with its reverberations between East and West - the stylistic affiliations may be French, but with that segment of the French school which had been radically influenced by Japanese art a generation or two earlier at once banishes all doubts about the health of clinging even so far to the past, while Fujita's prints, though frequently made in the West, retain throughout a strong sense of his eastern heritage. Later we have extraordinary contrasts between Sumio Kawakami's immediately postwar but backward-looking series *Scenes of Last Tokyo*, and the amazing original creations of Reika Iwami's abstract prints, with their intricate combinations of colour and embossing. If after this most of the Japanese prints shown from the last two decades look disappointingly as though they could have been made anywhere in the world, that is probably just one of the penalties of jet-age communication.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

Fires of London
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Until Mozart came along, anyone writing string quartets was bound to imitate Haydn, rather the same way Peter Maxwell Davies has planted his musical personality on his particular ensemble, the Fires of London, and in turn his music has been partly shaped by the association. For composer, players and audiences it is an entirely beneficial relationship, but it may not be so for other composers writing for the group, be they so eminent as Elliott Carter, whose *Triple Duo* on Sunday, though it came wheeling into the Albert Hall in an arc of sustained imaginative energy, was not totally untroubled by the difficulty of not being Davies.

The problem is that any rhetorical gesture or formal development, coming from these players, almost inevitably sends one into Davies's world. It is a problem that had been apparent earlier in this concert in *Cimmerian Nocturne* by the young Philip Grange, though that piece certainly showed a composer who has his own ideas and knows how to make them work. Carter, of course, nearly 50 years older than Grange, has a good deal more of a musical self to help him along, and the challenge of Davies's nearness seems to have made the *Triple Duo* even more emphatically characteristic than is usual.

Most of it is fast, much of it very fast: it must have been a Herculean task for the players to have brought it to this pitch of invigoration within a few months of first seeing it (they gave the world premiere in New York on St George's Day). It is also determinedly abstract.

Carter speaks, as often before, of a dialogue among different characters, here taken by the three duos of strings, woodwind and piano-percussion, but it is exceedingly hard to put words to what they say, except perhaps in the middle when the tempo slows and the strings provide a cushioned bed for the others to plunk star-sounds on, or at the end when the switch is thrown on a new sparkling interplay just as it begins. Otherwise, events move so fast that one seems to have lived through

several epics, successive and simultaneous, and yet the clock shows only 20 minutes have passed.

Another 20 went unexpectedly agreeably in the company of Davies's *Revelation and Fall* where, notwithstanding Mary Thomas's still hair-raising fit of vocal madness, the ear was opened by John Carewe's direction to this score's immense subtlety and exact purpose.

Paul Griffiths

RPO/Bernard
Barbican

Raymond Gubbay reaches the audiences other concert promoters cannot reach - or have lost interest in reaching. Let no one say that the Barbican cannot attract people: on Sunday a queue that stretched most of the way round Level 3 was turned away as the Royal Philharmonic played to a packed house.

The concert was scarcely unusual for its repertoire, but it brought a conductor, Andre Bernard, whom we are more used to hearing as a trumpeter, and a soloist, Jack Rothstein, whom we are more used to hearing as a leader. Bernard offered Beethoven - *Leonora No 3* and the *Fifth Symphony* - and Vaughan Williams: both composers were characterized with a flamboyance of gesture and wild abandon of expression that would surely have amazed them.

The procedure almost worked in the *Leonora* Overture because Bernard's technique - obviously studied at the Leonard Bernstein School of Balletically Mimed Interpretation - though somewhat imprecise, at least seemed to arouse the RPO to fury. In the *Tallis Fantasia*, on the other hand, the attempt to paint glorious reddening sunsets around Vaughan Williams's simple, affecting treatment of Tallis's melody was unhappy. In Max Bruch's famous First Concerto, Jack Rothstein was not the most smooth or silken soloist it is possible to imagine, but his playing had an unaffected strength and directness.

Nicholas Kenyon

Howard Devoto
Lyceum

Howard Devoto is nothing if not perverse. He was co-founder of Manchester's seminal pop punk group Buzzcocks but, within weeks of snuffing success, left to pursue a more languid career with Magazine. Just when Magazine were consolidating their appeal as an influential experimental outfit Devoto called halt again and embarked on the project *Jerky Versions of a Dream*, a collection of quirky fantasies with existential overtones and unsettling melodic structures.

This album formed the basis of his Lyceum show when he was assisted by dual keyboards, sax, guitar, rhythm section and Pamela Kifer, a back-up singer

Rock

whose impromptu display of semaphore was slightly more amusing than her vocal contributions.

Devoto's admirers were out in force to witness their English eccentric indulge in his brand of self-deprecating whimsy but even they seemed a trifle bothered and bored at the lack of imagination displayed on stage. Devoto's funny-peculiar ramblings do not work well live. His singing is monotonous and his band appear shackled by the leader's desire to extinguish what pop sensibility he has. Ironically, the more accessible Magazine songs drew the best reaction, though "Song from under the Floorboards" and "Permafrost" lost their original shock value and blended into the staggeringly average quality of the set.

Max Bell

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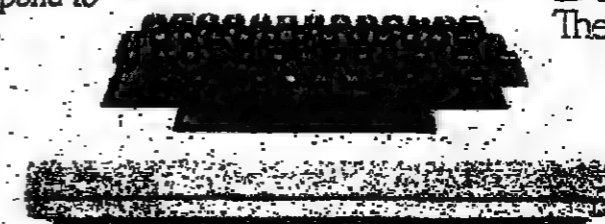
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WALL STREET
PRICES & COMMENT
THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

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39	8	K. Kato	2119	+0	40	31	20
40	9	Y. Kato	2119	+0	41	32	20
41	10	Shigeru Gold	2119	+0	42	33	20
42	11	Y. Kato	2119	+0	43	34	20
43	12	Georov. Yin	2120	+0	44	35	20
44	13	Y. Kato	2120	+0	45	36	20
45	14	Goldfields S.A.	2120	+0	46	37	20
46	15	Y. Kato	2120	+0	47	38	20
47	16	Rampart Gold	2120	+0	48	39	20
48	17	Y. Kato	2120	+0	49	40	20
49	18	Harbec	2120	+0	50	41	20
50	19	Y. Kato	2120	+0	51	42	20
51	20	Y. Kato	2120	+0	52	43	20
52	21	Y. Kato	2120	+0	53	44	20
53	22	Y. Kato	2120	+0	54	45	20
54	23	Y. Kato	2120	+0	55	46	20
55	24	Y. Kato	2120	+0	56	47	20
56	25	Y. Kato	2120	+0	57	48	20
57	26	Y. Kato	2120	+0	58	49	20
58	27	Y. Kato	2120	+0	59	50	20
59	28	Y. Kato	2120	+0	60	51	20
60	29	Y. Kato	2120	+0	61	52	20
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552	Shall, James	19	1	2.5	2.6
553	Shall, James	19	1	2.6	2.7
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584	Shall, James	19	1	5.7	5.8
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586	Shall, James	19	1	5.9	6.0
587	Shall, James	19	1	6.0	6.1
588	Shall, James	19	1	6.1	6.2
589	Shall, James	19	1	6.2	6.3
590	Shall, James	19	1	6.3	6.4
591	Shall, James	19	1	6.4	6.5
592	Shall, James	19	1	6.5	6.6
593	Shall, James	19	1	6.6	6.7
594	Shall, James	19	1	6.7	6.8
595	Shall, James	19	1	6.8	6.9
596	Shall, James	19	1	6.9	7.0
597	Shall, James	19	1	7.0	7.1
598	Shall, James	19	1	7.1	7.2
599	Shall, James	19	1	7.2	7.3
600	Shall, James	19	1	7.3	7.4
601	Shall, James	19	1	7.4	7.5
602	Shall, James	19	1	7.5	7.6
603	Shall, James	19	1	7.6	7.7
604	Shall, James	19	1	7.7	7.8
605	Shall, James	19	1	7.8	7.9
606	Shall, James	19	1	7.9	8.0
607	Shall, James	19	1	8.0	8.1
608	Shall, James	19	1	8.1	8.2
609	Shall, James	19	1	8.2	8.3
610	Shall, James	19	1	8.3	8.4
611	Shall, James	19	1	8.4	8.5
612	Shall, James	19	1	8.5	8.6
613	Shall, James	19	1	8.6	8.7
614	Shall, James	19	1	8.7	8.8
615	Shall, James	19	1	8.8	8.9
616	Shall, James	19	1	8.9	9.0
617	Shall, James	19	1	9.0	9.1
618	Shall, James	19	1	9.1	9.2
619	Shall, James	19	1	9.2	9.3
620	Shall, James	19	1	9.3	9.4
621	Shall, James	19	1	9.4	9.5
622	Shall, James	19	1	9.5	9.6
623	Shall, James	19	1	9.6	9.7
624	Shall, James	19	1	9.7	9.8
625	Shall, James	19			

279	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
280	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
281	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
282	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
283	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
284	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
285	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
286	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
287	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
288	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
289	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
290	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
291	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
292	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
293	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
294	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
295	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
296	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
297	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
298	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
299	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
300	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
301	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
302	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
303	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
304	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
305	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
306	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
307	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
308	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
309	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
310	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
311	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
312	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
313	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
314	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
315	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
316	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
317	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
318	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
319	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
320	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
321	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
322	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
323	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
324	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
325	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
326	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
327	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
328	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
329	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
330	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
331	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
332	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
333	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
334	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
335	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
336	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
337	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
338	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
339	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
340	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
341	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
342	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
343	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
344	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
345	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
346	Stacy	119	1.3	2.2	3.1
34					

[illegible]

1 month 9 1/2-9 3/4	3 months 10 1/4-10 1/2	Gold
3 months 10 3/4	12 months 10 3/4-10 3/4	Mar. 34
First Class Finance Houses (Yks. Rate 4%)		274.51
3 months 10 1/4	6 months 10 1/4	Kings
		422.123
		Sover

\$225.00 (see pincer)	225	50	Murray West	2
\$408.25-408 (1274)	408	50	Do 'B'	1
	227	129	Murray Glead	2
	118	68	Murray N'tha	1
	114	65	Do 'B'	1
	80	50	Murray West	

2.7b 3.2
Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings.

مَكْرَاهُنَ الْأَمْهَالِ

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 721.3 down 1.7
 FT 100: 79.23 up 0.20
 Bargains: 19.712
 Datastream US\$ Leaders
 Index: 98.16 up 0.49
 New York: Dow Jones
 Average (midday): 1169.97
 down 13.32
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index: 8,960.00 down 1.09
 Hong Kong: Hang Seng
 Index: 1,028.00 down 0.25
 Amsterdam: 148.8 up 0.7
 Sydney: AO Index: 672.1
 down 8.2
 down 2.4
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank
 Index: 946.2 down 18.0
 Brussels: General In-
 dex: 131.26 down 1979
 Paris: CAC Index: 130.4
 down 1.0
 Zurich: SKA General: 295.7
 down 0.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.4905 UP 50pts
 Index 84.5 up 0.2
 DM 4.02 up 0.325
 FF 12.0950 up 0.09500
 Yen 354.50 up 2.0
 Esq2r
 Index 129.4
 DM 2.6970

NEW YORK CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.4935
 INTERNATIONAL
 ECUS 0.568255
 SDRE 0.704147

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rates 9%
 Finance houses base rate 10
 Discount market loans week
 fixed 8%
 3 month interbank 10-9%
 Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 3/4
 3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
 3 month FF 16-15 1/2

US rates:
 Bank prime rate 10.50
 Fed funds 9%
 Treasury long bond 9 1/8-8 3/4
 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period 6 July to 2
 August, 1983 inclusive: 9.889
 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 am \$410.50pm \$408.50
 close \$408.25-409 (\$274-
 74.50)
 New York close: \$408.50
 Krugerrand (per coin):
 \$420.50-422 (\$282.50-283.50)
 Sovereigns (new):
 \$99-97 (\$64.50-65.25)
 *Excludes VAT

TODAY

Intelligence: Aaronson, Adams
 and Gibbons, Barstow Eves,
 Commercial Union, Fleming
 Mercantile Inv, Heywood Wil-
 liams Grp, W Jackson, Ocean
 Transport and Trading, Ren-
 now Inc, Rotaflex, Smith and
 Nighswy.

Financials: Crouch Grp, Uid
 Packaging.

Economic statistics: Pro-
 visional figures of vehicle
 production (July). Central
 Government transaction (in-
 cluding borrowing requirement -
 July). London clearing banks
 monthly statement (mid-July).
 Provisional estimates of mon-
 etary aggregates (mid-July).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Charter Consolidated, Caxton
 Suite, London International
 Press Centre, 76 Shoe Lane,
 EC4 (noon).

NOTEBOOK

Tendering finished yesterday
 for shares in the Farmers' Meat
 Company which is aiming to
 buy out the £4.9m ordinary
 share capital of F.M.C., the meat
 trading company. A minimum
 £7m must be raised if the
 scheme is to get off the
 ground.

International Systems and
 Controls, the American de-
 lices electronics company
 which went public in London
 last October is returning to
 the market for another £43m via an
 offer for sale by tender of 34.6
 million shares. Why did it
 decide not to issue the shares
 by way of rights and should
 investors subscribe? Page 14.

Guinness sold two business-
 es yesterday which had been
 trading under the company's
 umbrella, but had nothing to
 do with the drinks trade. Guinness
 gained £1,700,000 for disposing
 of Morrison Son and Jones
 overseas, a cosmetics and
 pharmaceutical group operating
 mainly in Africa and the Far
 East, and Jackel (UK), a
 Northumberland based plastics
 business.

Brewers battle, page 16

Revised statistics excluding oil refining show lower input prices

Slight fall in manufacturing costs
lifts hopes for holding inflationBy Frances Williams,
Economics Correspondent

Government hopes of keep-
 ing inflation below 6 per cent
 for the rest of the year were
 lifted yesterday by news that the
 cost of fuel and basic materials
 bought in by manufacturing
 industry fell last month, while
 prices for goods leaving the
 factories are rising only slowly.

Another boost for ministers
 came from revised figures
 confirming that business in the
 shops reached new highs in
 June, fuelled by record con-
 sumer credit.

Manufacturers' input costs
 fell last month by 0.6 per cent
 after a 0.2 per cent increase in
 June, cutting the 12-month in-
 crease in costs from 7.3 to 6.4
 per cent and reversing for the
 first time the upward drift in the

MANUFACTURING PRODUCER PRICES

(1980=100)	Output prices (home)	Materials and fuels prices
1982 July	118.3	115.8
Aug	118.5	115.0
Sept	119.3	115.4
Oct	118.7	116.5
Nov	120.0	119.0
Dec	120.8	122.8
1983 Jan	121.2	124.1
Feb	121.7	125.4
Mar	122.4	124.2
Apr	123.6	123.1
May	124.3	123.8
June	124.8	124.0
July	124.8	123.2

Provisional
Source: Department of Trade and Industry

annual rate since it touched its
 nadir of 3.6 per cent last
 November.

Last month's figures mark

the introduction of a new series
 of statistics on input and output
 prices - which use a changed
 definition of manufacturing
 industry to exclude oil refining.
 This has been reclassified as
 part of an "energy industries"
 sector.

The change has a big impact
 on the measurement of input
 prices because the crude oil
 used by oil refining accounted
 for a quarter of the index,
 making it sensitive to move-
 ments in oil prices and the
 value of sterling against the
 dollar in which the oil is priced.

Under the old series input
 prices would have risen by 0.4
 per cent last month, reflecting
 the higher starting price of crude
 oil as the pound depreciated
 against the dollar. The 12-
 monthly increase would have

RETAIL SALES AND CREDIT

(1976=100)	Sales by volume	New credit extended £m
1981	105.5	8,967
1982	108.2	9,310
1982 Q2	108.8	2,210
Q3	108.9	2,396
Q4	110.7	2,548
1983 Q1	111.1	2,575
Q2	113.6	2,597
1983 April	112.9	812
May	113.7	885
June	114.0	900

Source: Dept of Trade and Industry

been 3.9 per cent, down from
 4.4 per cent in June.

Oil products costs used by
 manufacturing for the new
 definition which also counts in
 for the first time slaughterhouses,
 photographic laboratories

and some quarrying activities)
 are included in the input index,
 however, with a weight of about
 13 per cent.

The cost of Materials for the
 food processing industry, the
 biggest items on the input
 index, accounting for more than
 a third are the main cause of
 last month's fall.

The prices of goods leaving
 the factories rose by 0.2 per cent,
 0.4 per cent on the old series),
 the same as the previous
 month, while the annual rate of
 increase fell to 5.5 per cent (6.5
 per cent) from 6.0 per cent (7.2
 per cent) in June.

Factory gate inflation appears
 to have shown little change
 since the beginning of the year,
 suggesting that companies are
 using profit margins to cushion
 the impact of fluctuations in
 sterling on input costs.

Fraser offers Smith
£80,000 full-time

By Philip Robinson

Professor Roland Smith is
 thinking of becoming full-time
 chairman of the House of Fraser
 stores group which owns
 Harrods.

For the past three years he
 has held the post part-time at
 £50,000 a year. When he was
 appointed a director, it was said
 he would devote about two days
 a week to the job.

The move is behind the new,
 secret, and much larger employ-
 ment package offered to him by
 Fraser board last month.

It is understood to give him a
 60 per cent pay rise on a five-
 year pensionable salary of
 £80,000 a year. To fund a
 pension scheme at that pay
 level will cost the Fraser group
 several hundred thousand
 pounds.

In addition, Professor Smith
 is believed to have been offered
 an executive share option
 scheme, a London house, and a
 car with chauffeur.

The last Fraser accounts
 show Professor Smith holding
 1,000 Fraser shares and not
 qualifying for the company's
 profit-linked share plan.

When he was appointed to
 the Fraser board in August,
 1980, Professor Smith unseated
 Mr Ronald "Tiny" Rowland,
 a deputy chairman of Fraser. Mr
 Rowland's Lomho group is
 Fraser's largest single share-
 holder with almost a third of
 the shares.

Professor Smith was ap-
 pointed by the City financial
 institution, which hoped he
 would stave off a takeover bid
 from Lomho and prevent it
 from gaining creeping control.

In the eyes of most observers
 he has achieved that. Lomho's
 150p-a-share takeover bid two
 years ago was referred to the
 Monopolies Commission who
 found it against the public

Smith: Lomho battles have
taken up his time

interest. Since then there have
 been several public clashes with
 Lomho.

The latest has been on the
 issue of floating-off Harrods as
 a separate company. Lomho was
 a majority vote from share-
 holders that this should be
 pursued, Fraser says that as the
 merger proposal failed to get a
 75 per cent majority enabling it
 to be implemented in a tax-
 efficient way, the issue is dead.

Fraser sources say that the
 battles have taken much more
 time than Professor Smith
 initially allocated. Observers
 suggest that he would need a
 full employment package for a
 full-time job to compensate for
 the possible loss of earnings from
 his other directorship.

Some of Fraser's institutional
 shareholders are becoming in-
 creasingly restless that the
 details of the new package have
 not been disclosed.

Controversy arising from the
 total salary package is unlikely
 to come from institutions. One
 fund manager said yesterday:
 "It might be cheap at the price if
 he can get Fraser right."

Prime rate rises hit Dow

New York (AP-Dow Jones)

stocks were still moving lower
 yesterday after their initial
 steep drop on the spreading
 prime rate increases and a
 higher-than-expected money
 supply figure. Trading was
 moderate.

The Dow Jones industrial
 average was off more than 17
 points at 1,166.

More than 1,180 issues
 showed declines compared with
 260 advances.

Mr Robert Mintz, vice-presi-
 dent at Philips Appel &
 Walden, said that "after the past
 couple of weeks the prime rate
 boost certainly was not a
 surprise to anyone."

"There has been a lot of
 pressure on the banks to raise
 rates and the increase is an
 indication of the banks' needs
 rather than of a resurgence of
 inflation," he said.

"It is good to have the boost

WALL STREET

out of the way. Now the market
 can deal with it," he added.

Mr Robert Farrell, market
 analyst for Merrill Lynch, said:
 "The stock market's recent
 reaction has been interest rate-
 related. Therefore the next rally
 for stocks should be influenced
 by the next rally in bonds."

Exxon was down 7-8, down 1-4;
 NCR 116 1-2, down 1-4; General
 Electric 47 7-8; General Motors
 67 5-8, down 1-3-4;
 International Business
 Machines 119, down 3-4.

AMR Corp was down 1-4 to
 29 7-8; Ford Motor down 1-4
 to 55 1-4; Borden down 1-4
 to 54; Commodore International
 off 3-8 at 42 7-8; Digital
 Equipment down 1-2 to 1-4;
 Johnson & Johnson off 3-4 at
 41 7-8.

Illingworth
takeover
report due

By Jeremy Warner

The long, complicated battle
 for control of Illingworth
 Morris, the Yorkshire textiles
 group, comes to a head to-
 morrow when the Monopolies
 and Mergers Commission re-
 leases its report on a takeover
 bid by Mr Alan Lewis, a
 Manchester businessman.

On the stock market, the
 company's shares have moved
 up to 12p over the last two
 trading days, compared with the
 10.25p a share which Mr Lewis
 has said is the most he is
 prepared to pay, and which
 would give the group a market
 capitalization of £3.4m.

The board has refused to
 recommend the offer. But with
 Mr Lewis already controlling
 more than 48 per cent of the
 shares - and this purchase has
 been one of the key issues in the
 Monopolies Commission investi-
 gation - the directors have
 little room for manoeuvre if he
 gets the go-ahead.

The Commission has been
 made aware of a number of
 alternatives to Mr Lewis's bid.
 One is an offer from Stroud
 Riley Drummond, the Brad-
 ford-based worsted manufac-
 turer, which put a bid, said to
 have been much higher than Mr
 Lewis's, to various Illingworth
 shareholders.

But the offer was dependent
 on certain members of the
 Ostrer family, which built up
 Illingworth, continuing their
 legal proceedings to prevent Mr
 Lewis acquiring a key block of
 shares.

Although Mr Stephen Sim-
 mons, chairman of Stroud,
 recently said that he was not
 interested as he had once been,
 there is widespread feeling that
 he is keen to return with a bid if
 Mr Lewis is forced to divest.

Mr Simmons has also been
 careful, in evidence to the
 Commission, not to ruin re-
 lations with Mr Lewis by stating
 whether he is for or against him
 acquiring Illingworth.

A second alternative,
 favoured by the Illingworth
 board, is that the group remain
 independent by reviving a Hill
 Samuel consortium of insti-
 tutions to buy out the powerful
 block of shares for many years
 controlled, as executives of the
 group have said, by Mrs Pamela
 Mason, former wife of the actor
 James Mason and a television
 chat show hostess in California.

Mrs Mason has frequently
 been at odds with the board
 over its plans.

She decided to sell to Mr
 Lewis "to pay a tax bill" and
 other members of the Ostrer
 family tried to prevent her
 through the courts.

But Mr Lewis was assured of
 control. However, Lord Cock-
 field, then the Trade Secretary,
 went against the advice of the
 Office of Fair Trading and
 referred the bid to the Mon-
 opolies Commission.

Ward & Goldstone
to cut 550 jobs

By Andrew Cornelius

Ward & Goldstone, the
 Salford-based wires, cables and
 electrical appliances manufac-
 turer, is being forced to close its
 cables division, with the loss of
 550 jobs, following a collapse in
 demand for its power cables.

News of the closure was given
 to the company's 3,000
 employees yesterday. It will
 take effect within three months
 unless a buyer can be found for
 the business.

The company estimates an
 overcapacity of 20 per cent
 within the industry, which has
 been hit by falling demand for
 its products from the building
 and electrical industries.

The cables division made
 losses of £1.5m, on sales of
 £19.7m, during the year to

Year to 31.3.83
 Pretax profit £27,000 (£1.3m loss)
 Stated loss per share 0.2p (4.9p)
 Turnover £26.3m (£24.5m)
 Net dividend 2p (2p)
 Share price 97p, Yield 2.9%

March 31, making cumulative
 losses of £2.9m during the past
 three years. A further £1m of
 losses have been chalked up in
 the past four months alone.

Despite the problems in the
 cables division, the company
 managed to turn round from
 last year's losses of £1.3m to
 pretax profits of £67,000 this
 year.

The turnaround was achieved
 on group turnover down from
 £74m to £66.3m.

£25m deal for Dalgety

By Jonathan Clare

Dalgety's "stock and station"
 subsidiary in New Zealand is
 being merged with a local
 company in a deal worth £25m.

The business provides ser-
 vices such as auctions and
 supplies to farmers, but Dalgety
 is now concentrating its re-
 sources in higher-yielding in-
 vestments in the northern
 hemisphere.

The deal has also dampened
 City speculation that Dalgety
 was about to ask shareholders

for cash. Rumours of a rights
 issue have been rife since it took
 on board Spillers' debts when it
 acquired that company.

Under the deal Dalgety is
 accepting an offer of 410 cents a
 share, or £25m, for its 56 per
 cent stake in Dalgety New
 Zealand from Crown Consoli-
 dated. But it will invest £10m in
 a 25 per cent holding in the new
 company, Dalgety Crown. The
 balance of £15m will be
 repatriated to Britain.

Ship Canal
in £2m
turnround

By Our Financial Staff

Manchester Ship Canal Company
 Half-year to 30.6.83
 Pretax profit £237,000 (£1.8m loss)
 Stated earnings 6.3p (48.5p loss)
 Turnover £11.4m (£11.9m)
 Share price 155p down 10p

Manchester Ship Canal
 Company has produced its first
 pretax profits, after allowing for
 exceptional items, since 1979.
 During the six months to June
 30 the company achieved a
 remarkable turnround from
 losses of £1.8m last time to
 pretax profits of £237,000.

The turnround was achieved
 despite allowing for exceptional
 costs of £1.3m for redundancy
 payments during the period.

The profits improvement
 comes largely from the re-
 duction in costs in the company
 which has cut its workforce
 from 2,100 two years ago to
 1,600 now in response to falling
 demand.

But the cuts will continue
 during the rest of this year to
 cope with further decreases in
 demand for the company's
 services.

Bridging loan for IMF likely

By John Lawless

European finance ministers
 and central bankers met in
 the Group of 10 to meet in five
 weeks to consider a bridging
 loan for the International
 Monetary Fund worth \$3bn.

"If this gets the go-ahead - and
 the prospects appear to be good
 - it will pave the way for Saudi
 Arabia to provide another \$3bn
 on the same terms."

Well-informed sources were
 anxious yesterday to stress that
 "this is not some sort of crisis
 meeting". The money would be
 made available to cover what is
 called the IMF's "commitment
 gap".

That would provide the IMF

with sufficient funds until it gets
 the already agreed increase in its
 quotas from member countries.

Britain was quick to sanction
 an increase in its quota earlier
 this year (with the United
 Kingdom subscription due to
 rise from 4,387bn Special
 Drawing Rights to SDR
 6,194bn).

Although other lending sub-
 scribers have said that they will
 work towards a year-end date
 for their agreements, some of
 them are experiencing prob-
 lems. In particular, the United
 States contribution of between
 \$7bn and \$8bn, in the subject of
 separate bills before Congress.

which have to be reconciled.

Hence the need for a short-
 term package. Mr Jacques de
 Larosiere, the IMF managing
 director, visited Basel a month
 ago to meet European central
 bankers and representatives of
 Saudi Arabia. He is known to
 have underlined the need for a
 significant commitment of
 funds right away.

IMF's own lending to poorer
 countries among its 146 mem-
 bers continues to outstrip its
 resources, he said. The pros-
 pects for more cash are not now
 seen to be as bleak as first
 thought.

Harvester may sell truck subsidiary

By Our Financial Staff

The American farm equip-
 ment group, International
 Harvester, is hoping to sell
 Seddon Atkinson, its British
 truck-making subsidiary, next
 month.

A spokesman at the group's
 Chicago headquarters yesterday
 said: "We are negotiating and
 hope to reach some sort of
 agreement in September."

Barclays Bank, Harvester's
 main creditor in Britain, said

that it would not be forcing
 Seddon Atkinson into a difficult
 financial position after a viola-
 tion of a loan covenant.

The covenant demands that
 its debts should not be greater
 than five times its capital base,
 and that the base must be worth
 at least \$7m (4.7m).

The closure of a Seddon
 Atkinson component plant in
 Oldham, Lancashire, two weeks
 ahead of schedule, involving

more than 200 redundancies,
 triggered the potential fault.

Barclays said: "We have
 agreed to waive the breach of
 covenant. Documentation is
 being prepared to cover this."

No price is being disclosed
 for the sale. ENASA, the
 Spanish concern, is considered
 the most likely buyer.

The Seddon Atkinson work-
 force has been cut from 1,800
 two years ago to just 662.

Brokers expect recovery after \$9

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

Foreign offer for FMC in the wings

There seems to be an increasing threat that FMC, the troubled meat trading company which is the biggest of its kind in Europe, could fall under foreign control.

Share tenders in a rescue scheme organized mainly by the National Farmers' Union are now being counted with an announcement due today or tomorrow on whether a minimum £7m has been raised.

A new company called the Farmers' Meat Company is being floated to buy out FMC's ordinary share capital of £4.9m. It looks as if much less than that sum will be raised let alone the £10m the plan's sponsors were hoping for to allow substantial capital investment.

Farmer subscribers would for some time see only one gain: the retention of the close links between the FMC and themselves as livestock producers. No dividends could be expected in the immediate future, they have been warned.

If less than £7m is subscribed the plan will be scrapped. That would leave Barclays Bank still without interest on its more than £3m overdraft to NFU Development Trust, raised to buy a majority shareholding in FMC at the time it was threatened with takeover by Thomas Borthwick and Sons, the international meat traders.

The interest was to have been paid from FMC dividends but these have not been paid for two years.

If the bank started looking for another buyer there is at least one foreign meat trading company reportedly waiting in the wings.

In the tangled affairs of FMC, that would be a political embarrassment to the Government. One possible way out might be if the Milk Marketing

Board bought into a restructured FMC.

However, FMC would still face the problems of the sector, one of which is overcapacity in meat processing. FMC was barely in profit in the last full year to April, but Borthwick did no better. The Danish Bacon Company, rival to FMC which is the biggest British bacon curer, went into loss.

The biggest prize in meat marketing now is to have the modern factories capable of producing for the needs of the big multiple grocers.

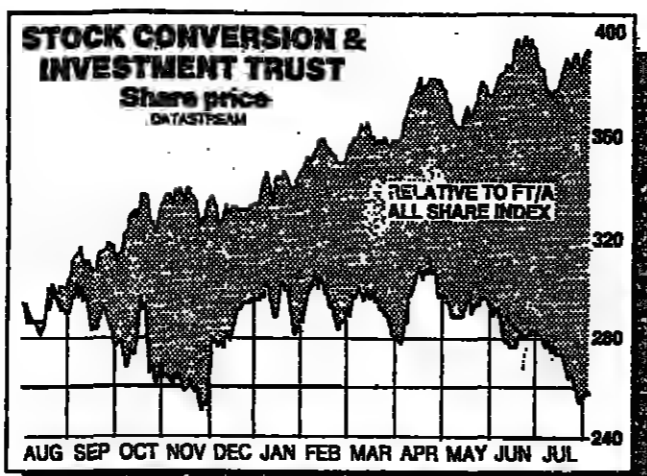
To complete the new FMC would need all of £10m to develop its factories. Raising £7m to allow the business to go on virtually as it is, albeit short of debt, could be the worst of all worlds.

Stock Conversion

Stock Conversion and Investment Trust
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £13.792m (£13.006m)
Stated earnings 13.38p (13.1p)
Net total dividend 4.75p (4.5p)
Share price 253p, Yield 2.7 per cent
Dividend payable 30.9.83

Pedestrian progress in pretax revenue and a dividend rise of only 5.5 per cent depressed Stock Conversion and Investment Trust whose none too popular shares sagged a further 5p yesterday to 253p where the price stands at a discount of 42 per cent to historic net asset value.

It has been a thin year for rent reviews and it is widely expected that the company's accounts, due out next Thursday, will show it following the path of Great Portland Estates, which revealed a fall in the value of its portfolio last month.



Like Great Portland, a lot of Stock Conversion's properties are West End offices where rents are held back by oversupply, and there is little exposure to the strong market for shop property. Neither is there any cushion from overseas holdings.

There was not much zest in the contributions from associate companies either with a rise from £2.8m to £3m. Almost all of this comes from the half-owned Euston Centre which itself reported a marginal rise from £5.9m to £6.1m.

This year the group is likely to continue to produce steady but undramatic growth of about £14m - a reasonable target. The shares therefore hold little attraction at present and in particular until details of the year's experiences are published in the accounts.

In the longer term the rate of growth should pick up with rising asset value as the company develops some of the larger sites it has been holding for some time.

International Signal

International Signal and Control, the American defence electronics group which chose to have its shares listed in London to avoid the Securities and Exchange Commission's tough disclosure rules, can be forgiven for opting for the tender method of raising new money to fund an acquisition.

When the company went public last October, the fixed price offer for sale was 35 times oversubscribed, attracting £1.1bn. It is no surprise therefore that ISC this time intends to take advantage of the demand for its shares by making the offer of 34.6 million shares at a minimum price of 125p each, subject to tender.

Most of the money is to be used to buy a Californian-based missile propulsion systems company called Marquardt. Existing shareholders might question why the company did not decide to raise the new

money via a conventional rights issue, thus giving them the benefit of any profit.

The fact that part of the offer consists of existing shares being sold by some of the executives is only part of the answer.

The other problem is that ISC is an American company and the moment that the American public begins to get involved with share offers, either by way of rights or any other method, the SEC will be given cause to seek all the information it wants from the company.

ISC is thus virtually precluded from offering any form of rights to shareholders for fear that American investors might get involved. New offers for sale, in contrast, can carry a restriction on American ownership.

There is a good deal of evidence to suggest that ISC shares trade up and down to a much greater extent than British defence stocks with the dollar and Wall Street making them susceptible to any recovery in the pound's value against the dollar.

Even so, the acquisition of Marquardt, and the astonishing growth rates achieved by American defence companies still leave a great deal to go for in this offer for sale which looks as though it could achieve a reasonable premium over the minimum price.

Anglo Nordic Holdings, which won control of Brabey Leslie earlier this year, is on the takeover trail again. Yesterday the company produced interim pretax profits of £366,000 against £33,000 last time and indicated that it is hoping to make another acquisition. Weeks Associates, the agricultural equipment group, is tipped as the target in the City.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **Grosvenor Press** which publishes reference books, is planning an additional issue of shares. This is expected to be accomplished via a rights issue to shareholders and a separate placing by Hill Woollgar, in the year to the end of last April, the group beat its own forecast of pretax profits of £240,000, with a result of £256,000. The dividend is 6p, rather than a forecast 4.85p.

● **The British Technology Group** is to invest £50,000 in a new Coventry-based company, manufacturing abrasion-resistant polyurethane parts and linings. The venture, which will create 20 jobs, involves total finance of £280,000 being provided by the BTG, the Department of Industry, Barclays Bank and four founding shareholders.

● **The Atlanta Baltimore and Chicago Regional Investment Trust** has formally withdrawn its offer for British Industries and General Trust. On July 27, Atlanta sold its holding of 367,500 shares in the trust.

● **Rights result:** Applications for 668,000 shares were received under a rights issue by Plantation and General Investments. In addition, applications were received for 551,000 of the excess shares. These were scaled down, so that applicants will receive about 15.5 per cent of what they asked for.

Alsea Investment Trust
Year to 31.5.83
Pretax profit, £22,04m (£1.66m)
Stated earnings, 2.26p (2.28p)
Stated dividend, 1.15p, making 1.85p (same)
Share price 82p, unchanged, Yield: 4.3%

Relyon Group
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £1.05m (£774,000)
Stated earnings, 5.04p (3.78p)
Turnover, £8.26m (£8.26m)
Net interim dividend, 1.85p (1.67p)
Share price, 123p, up 8p.

Kuwait drafts new stock market rules

Kuwait (Reuters) - The Kuwaiti Cabinet yesterday approved new rules for the country's official stock market which will be put before an extraordinary meeting of the National Assembly for ratification, the Kuwait News Agency said.

It quoted a government spokesman as saying the proposed law, which aims at preventing fraudulent stock transactions, would give the market a legal identity and establish an 11-member board to oversee its activities.

Mr Jasssem al-Maazouk, Commerce and Industry Minister, said at a press briefing he would be the chairman of the board, which would also include other government officials, representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and experts from various economic sectors.

The board would set rules for share dealings and new share listings, and in some circumstances suspend trading or block particular share deals, the agency said.

The extraordinary session of the National Assembly, due to be held this week, will also debate a draft law approved by the cabinet last Sunday aimed at reducing debts outstanding from last year's stock market crash.

The crash came after a big speculative boom centring on the unofficial Souk Al-Manakh stock exchange, financed largely by post-dated cheques for forward share deals which included huge premiums over spot prices at the time of the transactions.

The draft bill proposes limiting premiums to 25 per cent over the spot prices in an effort to reduce the volume of debts still to be cleared and forestall further bankruptcies.

Unofficial estimates have put the total of debts arising from unsettled post-dated cheques at over \$90bn (£60.6bn).

The Kuwait Securities Group meanwhile said prices on the Manakh market had begun to fluctuate sharply as rumours began to circulate of a reappearance of the "bad habits" which led to its downfall last year.

APPOINTMENTS

Yahult: Mr Robin Lipscombe has been made man aging director of the company which is the British subsidiary of Yahult AB.

New World Publishers: Mr Malcolm Talbot takes up the position of managing director.

Linguaphone Institute: Mr B. D. Watson has become managing director.

Bond Street Association: Mr Paul Clarke has been elected chairman and Mr Trevor Turner has been appointed executive officer.

Fleming Far Eastern Investment Trust: Mr N. T. Sibley has become a director.

Jackson Catering Equipment: Mr Allan Edney has been appointed chairman.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Futures
Coffees, cocoa, sugar in pounds per ton
Base oil in US per metric ton

RUBBER
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Jan 3



Consumer and Capital Electronics

Rediffusion
Business Electronics
Computers
Consumer Electronics
Radio Systems
Simulation



Entertainment and Leisure

Wembley Stadium
Walport
Thames Television
(associated company)
Humphries Holdings



Printing and Publishing

Argus Press
Electrical Press



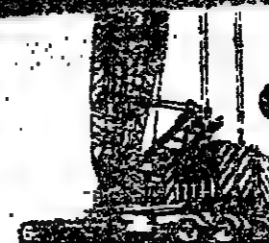
Freight and Passenger Transport

United Transport International



Services to Industry

Advance Services
Reclamation and Disposal
Initial
(associated company)



Construction Related Activities

Boulton and Paul
Grayston
Eddison Plant
J.D. White

"You are now watching BET."

BET has long been a company worth watching. And the past year has been no exception. A new Chairman. A new Managing Director. New members of the Board. And six newly restructured operating divisions which have attracted pre-tax profits of over £70 million from a turnover of £1,178 million. A performance which we hope has pleased our viewers. For the future, our programme will be tuned even more finely. In fact, we have every confidence it will make very good watching.

As the Chairman, Hugh Dundas, said in his Statement...

BET has traditionally developed its businesses for the long-term, prepared if necessary to accept some temporary sacrifice in profit where, by so doing, it believes it is establishing a sound base for future rewards. That is the reason why we are approaching our 90th birthday in such good shape.

We are now moving into a new era during which we plan not only to capitalise on the Group's well-established core businesses but also, by pursuing the policies of rationalisation and acquisition, to produce a significant and accelerated growth in profits.

A new era. A new programme

We shall:

- ☐ Reduce the diversity of our operations to focus more sharply on a limited number of business sectors with good potential growth
- ☐ Speed up the disposal of businesses which have current or expected sub-standard profits and those which do not fit in with our long-term planning

- ☐ Undertake a more active acquisition programme
- ☐ Make further sales of general investments using the cash to invest in growth sectors of our businesses and to reduce borrowings.

A sharper focus for the future

The first major move was made in March, when we acquired the 36.1% of Rediffusion ordinary shares we did not already own. The price was high, but we believe it to have been good value for money.

We made a good start with the elimination of loss making and incompatible business. Murphy Bros was disposed of in January. The sale of Canadian Motorways, with its patchy profit record, has been successfully negotiated. And Filmatic

Laboratories has been sold to its management. On the acquisition front, we have made a number of smaller acquisitions - particularly in the USA - and other moves are under active consideration.

The last year

Turning now to the hard core of BET's business, the year's results demonstrate the Group's inherent strengths.

There was solid growth in most areas. A total turned in another sparkling performance. Boulton and Paul, now well and truly streamlined down, have taken full advantage of the upturn in house building and promise an excellent future performance.

1982/3 saw a sharp increase in our oil exploration

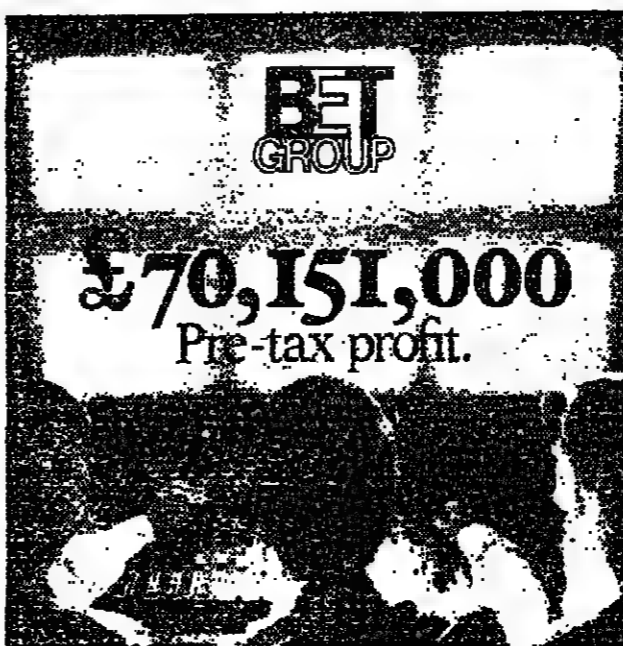
expenditure. Our long haul investment in this sector is now very close to pay-off point - with oil from the Maureen field expected to start flowing in October.

The outlook

This brings me to the immediate outlook. A year ago I said that I was 'fairly confident' that results in 1982/3 would be better than those of the previous year. Although this proved to be true, the increase in profit was a modest one. I expect that the current year's pre-tax profits will climb well away from the plateau upon which they have rested since the onset of the recession. The future looks good.

Summary of results

Year to 31st March	1983 £	1982 £
Profit before taxation	70,151,000	66,747,000
Taxation	19,127,000	31,668,000
Profit after taxation and minority interests	41,018,000	26,375,000
Deferred Ordinary Dividends	15,117,000	12,096,000
Earnings per 25p Deferred Ordinary Share	27.1p	17.4p
Dividend per 25p Deferred Ordinary Share	10.0p	8.0p



If you would like a copy of the Report and Accounts please send this coupon to:

The Company Secretary,
The British Electric Traction Company PLC,
Stratton House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6AS

Name _____

Address _____

BET

The talent that makes companies flourish.

TT 9/8

People/Walter Bauer of Informatics

The new 28-member council adds eight external (non-working) members, three Bank of England approved nominees from outside the market, and the chief executive, to the 16 elected working Lloyd's members which used to govern the market through the Committee of Lloyd's.

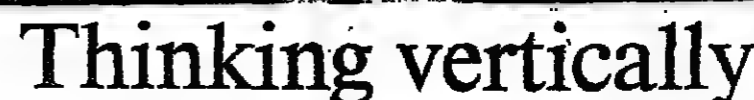
Market's policeman, Mr Ian Davison crusades for reforms

This week one of the first by-laws to be established under the new régime will be published by the council.

He has been given three to five years to take a grip on the administration of Lloyd's.

As part of this process the Investigations Committee was beefed up by adding Mr. Davison, legal experts and experienced working members of the market to its ranks.

Tomorrow: The Stock Exchange



by Roger Woolnough

But when he talks about vertical marketing, Walter Bauer means more than just designing software packages aimed at specific groups of users. The concept embraces a total solution, including software, hardware, professional

When the company was formed I felt that software had intrinsically the same value as the hardware". Bauer recalls

A caption in Computer Horizons on July 19 incorrectly referred to those in the picture as the F International accounting team. This should have read "senior management team."

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[illegible]

Japan is

By John Lawless

Japan has regained its position as Britain's biggest market in the Far East after a decline in imports by Hongkong.

Hongkong overtook Japan as Britain's best customer in the Far East in the first five months of last year, when it bought British goods worth £331m. In January to May this year, Japan's exports to Hongkong fell back to £284m.

Japanese purchases from Britain in the same periods

Japan is top customer again

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Japanese purchases from Britain in the same periods

The trade officials are anxious to see whether the strenuous efforts by the Japanese Government to force industrial consumers to buy foreign equipment result in increase sales this year, and even more next year.

Unit Trust prices
page 18

Unit Trust prices
page 18

Has Britain now found an answer to Wang?

THE WEEK

Clive Cookson

As one of the brightest prospects among Britain's home-grown computer companies, Information Technology Ltd (ITL), has raised £3.4m from five venture capital groups. The new finance should sustain ITL's 50 per cent annual growth rate and help managing director Tony Davies achieve his ambition of making the group Britain's answer to Wang, the immensely successful American office automation giant.

Two of the new investors, the Palmer Organisation and Oak Investments, are American, and ITL is counting on their connections to provide an entry into the United States market which it has not yet exploited. But the group remains 70 per cent British-owned.

ITL is little known in the computer industry, despite having a turnover of £18m in 1982/83 and a projected £27m this year. That is because it acts as a parent company, working through three operating subsidiaries: Computer Technology Ltd (CTL) based in Hemel Hempstead, Office Technology Ltd (OTL) Winchester, and Network Technology Ltd (NTL, Reading).

CTL is the largest of the three, concentrating on super-mini computers for high speed transaction processing, particularly in the manufacturing and distribution industries. It is the only British company specialising in what are variously called "resilient" or "fail-safe" or "nonstop" computers.

But Tony Davies insists that CTL's approach to resilience is quite different from Tandem and the other American suppliers of nonstop computers. They concentrate on ensuring that the hardware does not fail, he says, while CTL emphasises software resilience - guaranteeing that a large database remains uncorrupted whatever any of the users do at their terminals. (CTL's software protection technology originated from a secret project to develop a criminal database for Scotland Yard.)

OTL, which took over the word processor company Data Recall last year, concentrates on document processing in the widest sense. Its speciality will be office systems that mix text processing with Graphics, voice and data processing.

NTL, the newest and smallest of the trio, is a digital communications company. Like Wang, it believes that the future of local area networks lies in broadband systems which can handle video images, rather than the baseband of Ethernet (the network which comes closest to an industry standard).

The company's own broadband system uses the same technology as cable television, and it has won an interesting contract from the Department of Industry to develop means for Britain's emerging cable TV systems to communicate with each other, creating a new national communications network.

The three ITL operating companies will work increasingly closely together over the next two or three years, Mr Davies says. The tiny corporate management team of five is to be supplemented by a central strategic unit with about ten staff.

But the process is unlikely to proceed to a full merger of the three units, Mr Davies believes in "swinging the pendulum"

between centralization and decentralization every five years or so.

ITL has concentrated so far in building up strength in the home market. There have been limited exports to Europe but virtually none to the United States, which the management sees as the most promising market in the long term. Mr Davies is certain that a lucrative niche exists there for OTL's document processing systems and for CTL's database protection technology.

Using the contacts provided by the new US investors, ITL is assessing alternative strategies for attacking the American market. Some form of joint venture with an established US company is the most likely approach.

The American involvement was one major reason why ITL went for more venture capital funding rather than going public on the booming Unlisted Securities Market. Another is that Mr Davies is not yet convinced of the stability of the USM. He would prefer to go straight to a full Stock Exchange listing two or three years from now.



Chris Chiles in the BLSL computer centre.

Inside BL's nerve centre

By Geoffrey Ellis

The building, hidden deep in the Worcestershire countryside is approached through remote controlled video monitored gates set in a high security fence. Once inside, access to sensitive areas is by a system of electronic key cards that would not disgrace the Pentagon. It is the nerve centre of the British mobile industry, the computer centre of British Leyland Systems Ltd (BLSL). At the very centre of the building is a 12,000 square foot computer room where more than £14m of hardware purrs away processing some of the thousand million characters of company data, without which most of BL would rapidly come to a halt.

BLSL, a wholly owned subsidiary of BL, was set up in 1979 under the management of Sir Michael Edwards, to market the expertise gained in its primary role of providing technological support to the parent company. As with so many companies, BL first moved into computing through processing payroll and accounts, and a plant by plant piecemeal expansion prevailed. This was rationalized by the opening of the new centre, and it now provides support for more than 45 BL plants.

Mr Chris Chiles, director of Computer and Communications Services, is aiming his sales at the manufacturing and distributive industries, and has Ford among his clients.

As the only private operator of a micro wave link in Europe, BLSL provides the largest

privately owned communications network in the country, carrying voice, data, text and graphics signals. The company is offering its Comet electronic mail service and ViewShare, a videodata system - and signed Sony as its first major customer within days of receiving a licence to operate a network for data transmission.

There are just over 500 BL dealers on line to ViewShare, with that figure expected to double in the next year. By using the link they are able to locate a specific car for a customer within 30 seconds, and by abolishing much of the paperwork the error rate in claims for warranty reimbursement has dropped from 15 per cent to only 2 per cent.

Another of the successful packages originally designed to smooth the workflow on the Metro production line is ideally suited to spot potential bottlenecks in production at an early stage of planning a new factory. This "see why" package, using interactive simulation and modelling has managed to give a large chemical company an amazing 40 per cent increase in production in just one plant.

With these and a large number of other products developed in the day-to-day running of a giant manufacturing operation, Mr Chiles is confident of the growing power of the company. With a lengthening list of blue chip clients and turnover approaching £30m his optimism seems well founded.

JOB SCENE

Not easy for Tops

By Richard Sharpe

While crystal ball gazers in the computer industry insist that the days of the humble programmer are numbered many computer users still find it hard to get the right people.

In the long term the programmer must disappear. But now jobs remain to be done in the central data processing departments of thousands of UK users.

Britain has a reputation for exporting its software talent. Major US banks, Middle East oil companies and continental European engineering groups turned to UK recruitment agencies when they were stuck for programming people. This may now be changing as freelance Hungarian programmers come onto the market.

The Hungarians, so their promoters say, are talented programmers who, if not used to working with the very latest hardware, are experienced in routine applications that take up a lot of today's computing power.

The Hungarians are coming onto the market just as the Tops training scheme is undergoing an overhaul. Tops courses were one of the main ways people got into the computer industry, breaking the circle that employers wanted staff with experience but were unwilling or unable to train them.

Today, the number of people who can find employment after a Tops course in the computer industry is falling despite the excellent quality of much of the training.

Fewer than half of those who took courses during the academic year 1981/2 had a job after three months, a recent report into the Tops scheme said. This compares with 79 per cent being placed within three months in 1979/80.

Some of this is due to the slowdown in the growth of programmers and in the number of operators. But it must also reflect on the course itself, or more properly, the courses, because Tops is not a single course in computer skills but a number of them run by different operations with different course contents.

A degree of standardization is called for so that the quality of training can be guaranteed, and in this way the Manpower Services Commission hopes to make graduates of the course more attractive to employers.

The key question is whether standardised courses to a higher level than now included in Tops will be able to break the circle of no experience-no job.

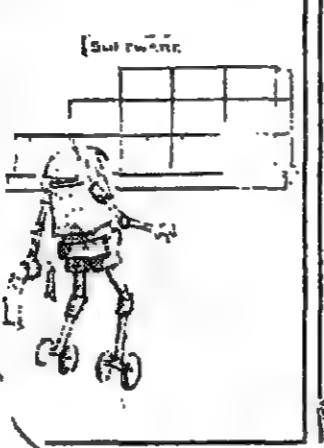
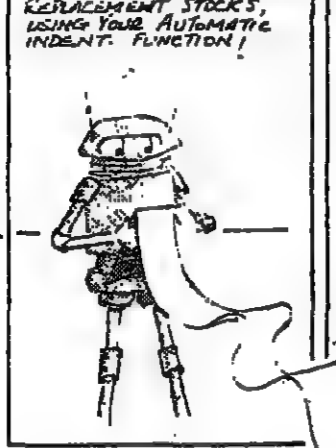
The Hungarians have the advantage of already being experienced. As their reputation is made their credibility will be built up, making them more attractive for other data processing managers.

AGOG

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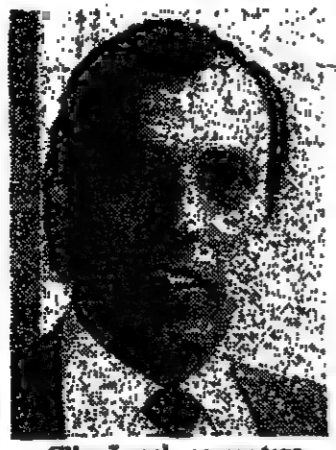


I'VE DONE IT AGAIN I'VE USED THE WRONG IDENT CODE



The software behind the hard-sell on TV

by Maggie McLening



Clive Leach: computers do the job quicker

As teething troubles at TV-AM showed, an independent television company is only as good as the advertising revenue it brings in. Attracting an audience is only part of the story; efficiency in booking, handling and screening commercials is also essential in the tough world that supplies tomorrow's catchphrases - by reaching the parts that no other medium but television can.

In the case of Yorkshire Television and Tyne Tees Television, it means increased reliance on computers and upon the company which provides sales, marketing and computer services: Link Television. Renamed in January 1982, Link TV evolved from its holding company, Trident Television. Managing director Clive Leach is also director of marketing and sales for Yorkshire TV.

"I'm not a computer man and know very little about them," he admitted. "In my view a computer's sole function is to do a job quicker, more easily, and more effectively. I will not have the computer tail wag the commercial dog."

Despite this, Mr Leach has made some shrewd choices of computer systems which have helped bring in Yorkshire and Tyne Tees' 15 per cent share of the total commercial television revenue, around £110,250,000 for the year ending May 1983.

Link TV has a staff of 186 divided between the computer centre in Leeds, which is also the site of transmission, and a sales department in London, with the traffic department in the London forming an administrative bridge between the two. All sales executives and their assistants are given fundamental VDU training and Mr Leach has set up a working party to coordinate sales, traffic and DP activities.

The company is moving steadily towards distributed processing and recently expanded its network with 60 terminals from Hytec Microsystems in Oxford, to provide local processing facilities for accounting, production, financial planning and word processing tasks. A mixture of model H4000s and H4300s covering both inter-

active and smaller, stand-alone Winchester disc-based operation, the terminals are connected into a dual Honeywell DPS 8/44 mainframe system, running under the GCOs operating system.

Although a variety of applications are run on the Honeywell machines, the most significant is Enterprise, a package from Enterprise Airtime Systems in Thames Ditton, which forms the hub of Link TV's airtime scheduling and accounting operation.

MARKETING

Originally developed for Thames TV in 1972, Enterprise has been adopted by 13 of the 15 independent television companies and was rewritten two years ago to cater for the introduction of Channel 4.

Advertisements are coded according to product type to avoid clashes between rivals and further checks are made to ensure that the same actors do not appear in juxtaposed programmes and commercials. Most members of Link TV's sales team have terminals to call up daily schedules to check on the amount of airtime available and its price. Each 30-second slot may have up to 10 different values, according to position and expected audience.

Mr Leach recalls the days before Enterprise was installed as "difficult". "We used to have huge boards with breaks laid out on them, and spots had different coloured cards to show their status," he explained. "Armies of girls used to move these cards around - sales people were never allowed to touch them, only to look for spaces to sell."

Under the pre-emptive system previously employed, where a booking could be displaced by a more lucrative bid, the computer system gave considerable benefits. Link TV has now changed to a fixed-price tariff to suit the altered economic climate and conditions in the advertising market.

About 10 to 15 years ago, the amount of revenue we took each month amounted to no more than 12-20 per cent of the total, but now it's between 50-70 per cent," said Mr Leach. "Agencies are also leaving booking until much later, so that where we might once have had £50m worth of £70m booked at the beginning of the month, we now have perhaps only £35m - this is why we need a computer."

Enterprise is only part of Link TV's streamlined operation, because the company has now built a back-end enhancement to carry automation right through to transmission.

Once all commercial slots are booked, usually by midday of the day before transmission, the schedule is frozen and transmission details extracted. A Hytec micro in the transmission area holds a record of all the cassette numbers of commercial recordings, and those required by the schedule are transferred to an 8in floppy disc.

The disc is then input to an automatic cassette player with three play-heads controlling 32 bins of cassettes. Commercial breaks between programmes are of similar duration for the whole country, although the content may vary, so the cassette player in Leeds loads up the recordings listed on the disc for transmission to the Yorkshire and Tyne Tees audience.

Afterwards, the transmission controller amends the schedule according to his records and a final version is produced on a word processor, for distribution to the IBA and the Audience of Great Britain organizations.

Quick ticket

People Express, the cost cutting Trans-Atlantic airline, is leading other airlines with hand-held portable computers as in-flight ticket machines. With more than eight Sharp portables to each flight, the cabin staff issue a detailed ticket to each passenger during the flight. Programmable function keys enable attendants to print out meal requirements, accept payment in either dollars or sterling, and pay for headsets and extra baggage. They have been used for ten months on domestic routes and are seen as a major cost saving operation by abolishing ticketing facilities at airports.

Cartridge battle looming

by Martin Hayman

Atari UK faces a vicious price war in the coming pre-Christmas period, when sales of home computer hardware and games software hit their traditional seasonal peak. Its own new range of products, announced at the recent Chicago Consumer Electronics Show, is still some way from being ready for Britain.

Commodore has attacked on the hardware and software fronts, dropping the price of its games cartridges to £10 - one-third of Atari's. Sinclair is shortly to equip its best-selling ZX-Spectrum with a ROM cartridge and games joystick interface to complement its new cheap data storage device, the Microdrive. Competitors like Mattel and Coleco are taking the British market seriously and are selling aggressively priced games machines which can easily be converted by the addition of a storage device and a keyboard into home computers.

Then there are new UK companies like the Pifco-backed Consumer Electronics, whose intention is to market cut-price peripherals like joysticks and printers imported from the United States and the Far East for Atari and other home machines.

Atari's problem is that it has been simply too successful. It was among the first to spot the potential of "interactive TV" and in 1976 Warner Communications, whose film and record business was already feeling the pinch, bought the idea. So successful was the arcade game, of which Space Invaders is the best example, that in 1981 Atari was contributing around 65 per cent of the group's profits.

But in 1982 Atari began to lose heavily in the US as the craze for arcade games waned. Buyers expected, and got, home computers from other manufacturers that would run the fast, vivid machine-code graphics that characterise arcade games - but unlike the VCS machines could be used for programming too. The coin-in-the-slot craze had also waned when Atari and their associates Williams failed to come up with "hit" games of the quality of Invaders, Pac-Man and Defender.

Atari's initial success in Britain was founded on the quality of its VCS games machines, which were sold through Ingersoll. But when Atari spotted that there was serious business to be done in the UK and EEC and wanted to buy back its UK interest, it found itself up against Gerald Ronson, boss of the Heron Group who controlled Ingersoll, and who extracted a swingeing £21m.

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Lessons for cricket and football in the gridiron game

What American way of sporting life would do for Britain

I remember when I was at Lord's in the company of an amiable but intolerant gentleman, watching England getting whacked by the West Indies. At the end, with the predictable pitch invasion at its height, he turned to me and said: "Look at it - the sacred turf is covered in wogs."

I don't know what he would have said last Saturday when Art Plunkett, Craig Puck, Tootie Robbins and all their pals from St Louis Cardinals collided so thunderously with the Minnesota Vikings in the American football match at Wembley Stadium. It was a fortnight and a million light years away from the Charity Shield match between Liverpool and Manchester United.

Initial remarks that this seemed to be a game of chess played with epsilon semi-morons instead of chess pieces did not go down well in a press box stuffed with enthusiasts and connoisseurs, so I was forced to keep silent and allow the delights of this genuinely beautiful game to make themselves plain.

Grim faces

Up in this glass-fronted eyrie, a pair of borrowed race glasses in my hand, I could see the grim faces behind the helmets, could even see the tips of the quarter-back move, apparently, I am informed, saying such things as "59-red-blue-but" I could even see the tips of the Vikings moving as "The Star Spangled Banner" was played before the match. My informant told me they had been practising.

It is a lovely game, at least for the spectator, and one cannot fail to be impressed by the American way of specialization. We Brits revel in the amateur approach even among people who get paid for playing. In the gridiron game, you get good at one thing, you stay good and you draw your pay. General all-round competence is anathema. Each team includes an entire team of 11 men whose function is solely to receive

kicks. Their total involvement in the game is no more than a couple of minutes.

A kicker has an even easier life, snatching out to kick a ball once every hour or so. Perhaps our brave boys who went to New Zealand would have profited under such a system.

Different teams

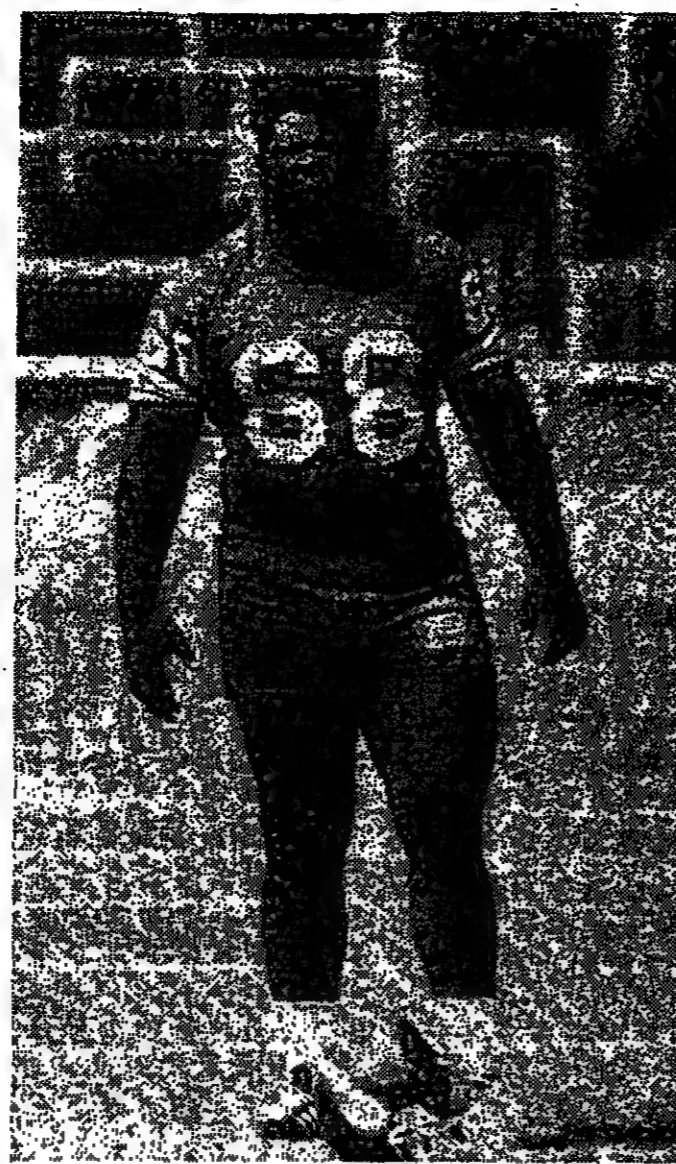
There are also completely different teams for the tasks of attack and defence. This would be an intriguing innovation in the Football League: clubs could amalgamate and become unbeatables. Imagine playing Luton's first 11 when the ball crossed the halfway line and every time it came back into your own half, switching to 11 men from another club. But I have promised to give up Arsenal jokes.

The woe of the England cricket selectors could be cancelled at a stroke under such a system. With a line-up of 20 or more bowlers, you would have a man for every occasion, with a dozen and more batsmen of varying styles. That true specialist, Bob Taylor, would hold his England place until he was 90, all batting worries cast aside forever.

You could have various fielding sides, a band of nine fleet-footed Derek Randalls for saving runs, a gang of toffee-fingered catchers for more aggressive moments. The only drawback is that we would lose the joys of watching Bob Willis bat as a bowler, he is in a select group of the greatest; but as a batsman he is unique.

The rhythms of the gridiron game are somewhat alien. The game involves a great deal of hanging about, with much running on and off the pitch. The fact that the uniforms make every player appear identical adds a further factor of bafflement.

Before anything can happen, the two groups of players actually about to do something hold rival prayer meetings a few yards apart. Then each player takes a different pose and holds it, like an over-consciousness



Training is a yawn: Bob Willis, a Viking without a helmet

mime student, and then we have all this red-blue-hut business.

There follows about five seconds of action, like mimes performing some drama called *Anthill* poked with stick, and then perhaps by prearranged signal, everybody falls over. It is like ring-a-ring-a-roses. If the spectator has worked out where the ball is, let alone how it got there and why, he is doing rather well.

Game analysis

All is made clear when a kind fellow gives the journalists a duplicated sheet carrying a move-by-move analysis of the game, a great American custom. It tells you all you could possibly wish to know: "Ted Brown 1st down 3 yd gain. Ran oob." Or "Lish is sacked by Hart and Ashley at the 23, 4yd loss". They don't provide that

kind of service at Tooting and Mitcham FC.

But like the game of football, as we know it, gridiron has those moments of sudden explosion, moments when the game leaps from the pedestrian to the excited, moments when all the 59-red-blue-but wozies, and sheer inspiration is added to the mixture, the forward pass soaring from the cage of mulling giants, the ecstatic moment as the wide receiver clings on to the impossible ball in the teeth of a band of murderous ruffians in the wrong-coloured shirts, and you are in the wholly familiar territory of sheer joy, and you remember what sport is all about again.

There is untrammelled delight to be taken in such specialized excellence. But I would hate to be deprived of Bob Willis's batting.

Simon Barnes

FOOTBALL

£70,000 Campbell reunion at Derby

Peter Taylor has paid some of his own money to buy the Bradford City centre forward, Bobby Campbell, from Bradford City.

Derby County could not afford the full £70,000 fee for the Northern Ireland international on Taylor and his management team made an interest-free loan to the club. Campbell will therefore re-join the former Bradford manager, Roy McFadden, at Derby.

The Zimbabwe national team have arrived in Britain for a two-week tour, during which they will play Derby County, Carlisle United, Port Vale and Coventry City.

Coventry scored a play-off victory this year, beating the national team 5-2 and winning three of five matches against club sides.

West Bromwich Albion have been quoted a fee of £175,000 for the Aston Villa centre-half, Ken McNamara, who has turned down the offer of a new two-year contract.

Ron Wylie, the Albion manager, is seeking to buy the player, who is 27 years old, from Peterborough.

Chelsea's unsettled midfield player, Mike Filmer, has promised to leave Coventry City today, whether he has decided to sign for them. He has agreed terms with the Coventry manager, Bobby Gould, but talks to two other first division clubs, including Queens' Park Rangers, at the weekend.

Tommy Taylor, the former West Ham and Orient central defender, is to join Charlton Athletic as player-coach, and in his first year as a professional was named "Rookie of the year". His 1982 earnings of £237,434 set a record for a first-year

player, and already this season is assured of setting a similar mark for second-year players with \$397,684.

Like Nicklaus, he won an event in his first season (the Nicklaus was the U.S. Open) and has wasted little time in succeeding in this tournament. Also like Nicklaus he is blond and well-built, and is a long hitter of the ball.

One area in which Nicklaus has a great advantage is experience, with 17 titles to his credit. Sutton asked him how he got used to playing the 18th hole for a championship. "They enjoy it," was Nicklaus' reply. "This is what you've worked for."

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GOLF

A cub called Sutton follows the tracks of the Golden Bear

Los Angeles (Reuters). - Hal Sutton has taken the first step towards the superstar status enjoyed by Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson by winning a big tournament in only his second season.

Nicklaus, who failed by one stroke to catch Sutton in yesterday's climax to the US PGA Championship, had no doubt his young rival was on the way to a successful career. "Hal, Congratulations," the "Golden Bear" said after watching Sutton tap in a four-inch putt that gave him the title at the Riviera Country Club. "That'll be the first of many for you."

Sutton, who led from start to finish, at one time built up a five-stroke lead then saw it dwindle to one as he tried to play conservatively and only succeeded in dropping a stroke on three consecutive holes. However, he steadied himself and had pars for the last four.

Needing a par at the formidable 447-yard 18th hole, a play-off with Nicklaus, Sutton sent a low drive, soaring over a ridge and into the fairway, then smacked a five-iron 15 feet below the hole for an

ace, two putts. That gave him a 7-1 for the day and a 10-under-par total of 274.

Sutton's closest challenger was not, as expected, Ben Crenshaw, who had beaten him in the previous year's U.S. Open, but Tom Watson. Nicklaus closed with a 66 for a 275 total, while Crenshaw was just one more stroke off a 65 in which he had seven birdies in the first 12 holes.

Sutton, the 25-year-old son of an oil millionaire, in Shreveport, Louisiana, has compiled a record in his first two years as a professional that bears comparison with that of Nicklaus.

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Sutton smile, looks and trophy are out of Nicklaus' mind

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World athletics championships: injury spoils US chances of double victory in the 100 metres

Wells is edged out by American trio

The man with the monitor that could put Coe back on the right track

From Pat Butcher, Helsinki

Carl Lewis, and the Americans, a "Super Group" if ever there was one, made a clean sweep of the men's 100 metres at the world athletics championships here last night.

And Marica Goehr, of East Germany, won the women's 100 metres as a torn hamstring prevented Evelyn Ashford's attempts to emulate her male colleagues.

Alan Wells was not disgraced in fourth place after a start that was only bettered by Emmitt King, of the United States.

Wells only caught King with 30 metres to run but then won in 10.07sec by an appreciable margin from the other Americans, Calvin Smith, who recorded 10.21sec and just edged out King with 10.24sec.

Wells was a similar fraction down in fourth place in 10.27sec, but Lewis was clearly in a class apart.

The women's final was always going to be a better race but the expected rivalry between Goehr and Ashford was unfortunately decided by the American's torn hamstring.

Goehr won in 10.97sec from her compatriot, Marica Koch, who did splendidly to come down to this distance from 400 metres and win a silver medal with 11.02sec.

Judy Livermore got an even better start in the heptathlon than she did in Athens. She was in first place after three of the seven events, but knows that those are her best events, and

will do well to finish in the first six in the world when the series finishes today.

Miss Livermore ran to one hundredth of her best time in the 100 metres hurdles, for third place, and then followed up with a personal best, and the best by anyone in a heptathlon-high jump with 1.92 metres.

That put her in the overall lead, which she maintained after the third event, even though she could only finish seventh with a 13.85 metre shot put, which was nevertheless close to her best.

Marica Koch's presence in the 100 metres was due to an injury during the winter which curtailed the endurance training necessary to her world record event, the 400 metres. This has made tomorrow's 400 metres final a virtual walkover for her great rival, Jarmila Kratochvílová, and when the Czech broke the world record for the 800 metres two weeks ago, a double of the like, that Paavo Nurmi did in the Paris Olympics in 1924, when the Finn won the 1500 metres and 5000 metres within an hour, began to look possible.

Kratochvílová made it look more than possible when she literally ambled through her 400 metres semi-final yesterday. She is still a novice at the 800 metres, and the crunch may come today when she tries to run the 400 metres semi-final 30 minutes before the 800 metres final. But it is the sort of test that will make her even more famous if she succeeds.

Michelle Scott, the only Briton in the 400 metres also qualified for the semi-final behind Kratochvílová. Phil Brown and Todd Bennett also qualified for the men's 400 metres semi-final. Bennett had to put in a late burst in the last heat to secure his place, but Brown, in what he admitted was "my best race of the season", was an easy second. Both youngsters are running much more confidently, and, as proving that their training, contrary to some opinions had delivered them here in the right condition.

Ed Moses looked as super as his 80-plus series of victories would suggest in winning his



Best of British: Judy Livermore celebrates her personal best in the heptathlon high jump.

400 metres hurdles semi-final in 48.11 sec. Harold Schmidt, the European champion, and the last man to beat Moses in 1977 won the other race. But only a madman would vote against Moses, and he looked capable of getting close to his world record of 47.13 sec.

Wendy Sly did enough of the work in her 3,000 metres heat to ensure qualifying, as did the other two Britons, Chris Benning and Jane Furness. But tomorrow's final will undoubtedly go to one of the two Soviet

winners, the world record holder, Svetlana Usmasova, and Tatiana Kazankina who just edged the American hope, Mary Decker on the line. But even that is something that another relatively poor sprinter, Carlos do Carmo, it could even be a repeat of last year's European final when Alberto Cova out-sprinted Scheldauer, but the Commonwealth champion, Gidema Shahaaga, of Tanzania, looked ominously easy, as did Mohammed Kadir of Ethiopia.

55sec last lap speed necessary to win a top class distance race.

Their best chance would be to raise the pace around 3,000 metres from the end. But even that is something that another relatively poor sprinter, Carlos do Carmo, it could even be a repeat of last year's European final when Alberto Cova out-sprinted Scheldauer, but the Commonwealth champion, Gidema Shahaaga, of Tanzania, looked ominously easy, as did Mohammed Kadir of Ethiopia.

What is exercising the minds of not a few specialists here at the world championships is a conundrum which is fundamental to further improvement in middle and long-distance running: how does the exceptionally fit athlete who is normally abnormal know how to read the signs which might tell him he is abnormally abnormal, or in his terms, no longer normal?

The 5,000 metres heats will take place tomorrow without the world record holder, Dave Moorcroft. In the 10,000 metres final tonight Alberto Salazar, of the United States, fifth fastest ever behind Rono, Mamede, Lopes and Schildhauer - the last three the favourites tonight with Cova, Shahaaga and Kunze - has almost no chance of a medal having scraped through with the last qualifying place.

He inactively ran in the Rotterdam marathon in the spring for reasons best known between himself and the promoter and has never properly recovered, suffering recently from respiratory problems.

Most conspicuous of all tonight's 800 metres final will be without Sebastian Coe, who has run the distance almost two and a half seconds or some 19 metres faster than anyone taking part but is sitting forlornly at home watching television, in place of these three cases and many more besides can anyone be sure why?

But he does claim: "What we do have expectation of doing is being able to tell the individual, from the knowledge of his past physiological history, that he is on the verge of breakdown before he actually cracks up. It's a fine line. The reason we have not published anything yet is because it is still case history. Each athlete is an experiment of one. We can be sure, however, that the better the athlete is the more unique his physiology will be."

"What we could hope to do for Seb or Dave Moorcroft, for anyone else, is help them to train around their excellence, instead of around the borders of injury or illness. Peter Coe may be a fine coach, but he does not know Seb's disease mechanism, or his diet idiosyncrasies. We have figures on the blood analysis after over-training because we monitor our athletes every two months. The one thing you can say with certainty is that some athletes are not making the most of themselves, from the very fact they are not here."

Coe said from his home yesterday that he would gladly consider going for analysis by Martin, with whom he has had previous discussions, depending on the outcome of his present tests in England. He has already said he will not run again internationally unless he can

From David Miller, Helsinki

England, where qualifications are traditionally outstanding. What we might be able to tell Seb better than they can is how he compares with other elite super-bodies, because someone with his remarkable physical condition cannot be related to the ordinary human body experienced by doctors in conventional medicine. There is no standard to which the blood chemistry of such bodies can be compared.

"Seb is too precious to the sport to be stuck not knowing what will be the reaction of his body to the workload and stress he has to subject it to. I'm American but I wanted to see him win here because excellence is my game."

Martin is emphatic that the study of the blood, lymph, plasma and glandular condition of super athletes is still in its infancy because no two men or women at this level are the same.

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Coe: case for analysis.

find the answer to his loss of form. Medical analysis is more likely to hold the answer than some of the wild speculation that has been flying about here over the past few days.

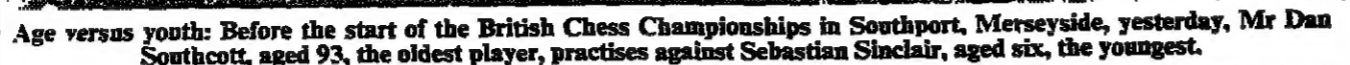
There has been a strange demonstration of disloyalty among some other athletes and coaches, suggesting all manner of defects in the statements by other coaches such as John Allen, made without any knowledge of the training pattern or diary which has brought Coe his past successes.

After last night's semi-finals of the 800 metres there can be little doubt that the champion will be Joaquim Cruz, the tall, loping Brazilian, who won in 1min 45.62sec after easing up over most of the last 50 metres. His huge stride eats up the ground and though he gives no impression of sharp, basic speed, he can respond to any challenge thrown at him apparently without much effort. Robinson had to fight hard to take second qualifying place behind Cruz, ahead of Dupont (France) and Kalinkin (Soviet Union).

Garry Cook was at the shoulder of the leaders, Koskei (Kenya) and Guimaraes (Brazil) for a lap but from third at the bell he faded to sixth, with Wulbeck coming through hard on the outside down the straight to win in 1min 46.21sec. But I do not think the experienced German or his compatriot Ferner, the European champion, who took the third heat in 1min 45.24sec, have it in them to defeat Cruz, fastest of the year behind Coe

Today's timetable

8.00 Women's 100m, Qualifying
8.20 Women's 100m, Final
8.40 Women's 400m, Qualifying
9.00 Women's 400m, Final
9.20 Women's 800m, Qualifying
9.40 Women's 800m, Final
10.00 Men's 100m, Qualifying
10.20 Men's 100m, Final
10.40 Men's 200m, Qualifying
11.00 Men's 200m, Final
11.20 Men's 400m, Qualifying
11.40 Men's 400m, Final
12.00 Men's 800m, Qualifying
12.20 Men's 800m, Final
12.40 Men's 1500m, Qualifying
13.00 Men's 1500m, Final
13.20 Men's 5000m, Qualifying
13.40 Men's 5000m, Final
14.00 Men's 10000m, Qualifying
14.20 Men's 10000m, Final
14.40 Men's 20000m, Qualifying
15.00 Men's 20000m, Final
15.20 Men's 40000m, Qualifying
15.40 Men's 40000m, Final
16.00 Men's 800m, Qualifying
16.20 Men's 800m, Final
16.40 Men's 1500m, Qualifying
17.00 Men's 1500m, Final
17.20 Men's 5000m, Qualifying
17.40 Men's 5000m, Final
18.00 Men's 10000m, Qualifying
18.20 Men's 10000m, Final
18.40 Men's 20000m, Qualifying
19.00 Men's 20000m, Final
19.20 Men's 40000m, Qualifying
19.40 Men's 40000m, Final
20.00 Men's 800m, Qualifying
20.20 Men's 800m, Final
20.40 Men's 1500m, Qualifying
21.00 Men's 1500m, Final
21.20 Men's 5000m, Qualifying
21.40 Men's 5000m, Final
22.00 Men's 10000m, Qualifying
22.20 Men's 10000m, Final
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For 10 days in May, according to General Paul Gorman, commander of the Panama-based US Southern Command.

The Hondurans have no armour to speak of. There are 13 Scorpion armoured cars in Choluteca, no match for the T55 tanks the Nicaraguans use.

A map of Central America and the surrounding regions. The countries shown are El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Panama. The Pacific Ocean is labeled to the west of the landmass. Arrows point from the text 'Central America' to the corresponding geographical area on the map.

The arrival of the American advance team in Honduras yesterday officially signalled the beginning of that process. The men will operate in three main areas from north to south, but are under orders not to go within sight of the Nicaraguan border.

PARIS: M Claude Cheysson, French Minister for External Relations, said yesterday that the latest American moves in the Chad crisis were "definitely not made after consultation with France", (Roger Beardwood writes).

For centuries, the Greeks have disputed ownership of the site with the Catholics and the Armenians, with the peace - quite literally - only being maintained by strict adherence to an arcane code of conduct always referred to simply as the *status quo*, which was laid down in the eighteenth century: an attempt to breach this frustratingly imprecise set of rules later

All subsequent efforts by Israel's Ministry of Religious Affairs to persuade the Greek churchmen to see reason and accept the suggested compromise have failed. "The situation is intolerable", explained an official from the ministry. "I should not really say this, but the whole affair seems very unchristian".

Christopher Walker

VAQUARD
NEPTUNE
MERMAID
PACIFIC COAST
PRINCE OF PEACE
ILLOWA
DIVINE IMPATIENCE
EAST CANTONMENT

Spain Ptas	227.75	210.75
Sweden Kr	12.10	11.50
Switzerland Fr	3.34	3.17
USA \$	1.51	1.48
Yugoslavia Dnr	156.00	146.00

Prices for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 334.7.

London: The FT index closed down

Norwiche	low	-
Norwich	low	-
Preston	high	noon to 3 pm*
Reading	low	-
Readingham	med	noon to 3 pm
Runcorn	med	noon to 3 pm*
Salford	high	noon to 3 pm*
Southampton	low	-
Stratford	low	-
Tewkesbury	high	3 to 6 pm
Warrick	med	noon to 3 pm

Highest and lowest
 Saturday: Highest day temp: Heathrow (73°F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, 15C (59°F)



* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available